

Soviet leader appears in public

From Richard Owen Moscow

President Chernenko, widely believed to be seriously ill after a mysterious seven-week absence, yesterday reappeared at a Kremlin ceremony honouring Miss Svetlana Savitskaya and two other cosmonauts.

The 69-year-old leader seemed under strain however and badly short of breath, walking stiffly into the room and barely smiling, despite his description of the occasion as "joyous" and the upbeat style of his speech.

Soviet television showed Mr Chernenko, who will be 73 this month, putting on his spectacles and standing to read a prepared text. He handed cases containing the Order of Lenin to Miss Savitskaya, Colonel Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Mr Igor Volk, the crew of Soyuz T12, which docked with the space station Salyut 7 in July.

The Soviet leader appeared infirm and ill at ease compared with Miss Savitskaya, who made a fluent speech of thanks in reply, speaking extempore.

The uncertain health of the ageing Soviet leadership was underlined yesterday by the death in East Germany of Mr Leonid Kozlov, the Deputy Prime Minister, who suffered a heart attack at the age of 69. Mr Chernenko suffers from heart and lung ailments.

In his speech Mr Chernenko described the cosmonauts' work as "spectacular" and wished them sound health. He used the occasion to make an appeal to the United States over the "Star Wars" talks.

He appealed to the United States to show "political foresight" and assess the Soviet Union's Star Wars proposal for talks in Vienna on space weapons "at its true worth". He emphasized that an agreement on space weapons would "infuse Soviet-American relations with elements of mutual trust they need so badly".

The Soviet leader adopted a confident and folksy tone during the ceremony, noting that the triumph of the "fine crew of Soyuz T12" was shared by the cosmonauts still on board Salyut 7, who are almost certain to set a new endurance record this week.

Referring to Miss Savitskaya as "Svetlana", he praised her achievement in becoming the world's first woman space walker and said space walks had become like "regular strolls" for the Salyut 7 crew.

With his eyes on the stars rather than earthly mysteries of politics and health, Mr Chernenko said that since Yuri Gagarin's legendary flight 23 years ago the Soviet space programme had been a blend of daring scientific thinking and cosmonauts' courage. "We have wide-spread plans for the future," he remarked, underlining the need for peace in space.

Photograph, page 6



Winning smiles: Mr Mulroney and his wife, Mila, celebrate victory in their home town of Baie Comeau, Quebec

Mulroney crushes Liberals in Canada

From John Best, Ottawa

Nearly a quarter century of Liberal Party rule in Canada has ended in spectacular defeat at the hands of the Progressive Conservatives.

The Prime Minister-elect, Mr Brian Mulroney, intends to make his job creation his priority after he takes office in about 10 days.

The Tories changed Canada's political map, capturing 211 seats in the 282-seat House of Commons, compared with the 100 they held when Parliament was dissolved for the election.

The only consolation for the Liberals was the success of Mr John Turner, the Prime Minister, in winning the Vancouver Quadra seat.

His party was left with just 40 seats compared with the 135 it previously held. It leaves the Liberals only 10 seats ahead of the left-wing New Democratic Party, which picked up 30.

The voters' massive repudiation of Liberal policy raised questions about the future of the party which has governed Canada continuously since 1963 - with one brief interlude in 1979-80 - and for all but seven of the past 49 years.

The party is faced with a mammoth rebuilding job after being humiliated from one end of the country to the other. The worst disaster is the loss of French-speaking Quebec, which the Liberals had practically owned - politically - for nearly a century.

Only 17 Liberals were elected in the province, against 74 at the last election four and a half years ago. A total of 58 Conservatives triumphed compared with just one in the last election.

The leader of the New Democratic Party, Mr Ed Broadbent, rubbed salt in the wounds by suggesting that his party rather than the battered Liberals will be the real opposition to the Conservatives.

Continued on back page, col 4

Final results			
Seats	%	1984 (1980)	1984 (1980)
PC	211 (103)	50 (32)	
Lib	40 (147)	28 (44)	
NDP	30 (32)	19 (20)	
Others	1 (0)	3 (4)	

18 patients die in food epidemic

By Nicholas Timmins

Eighteen patients have died and 387 patients and staff have become ill after one of the biggest outbreaks of poisoning at a hospital in over a decade.

The outbreak, at Stanley Royd psychiatric hospital, Wakefield, was said yesterday to be on the wane, with only 46 patients including two new cases still suffering symptoms associated with salmonella organisms.

Since the outbreak began on last week's August bank holiday, 339 patients and 48 staff at the 900-bed hospital have been taken ill.

Environmental health officers from Wakefield Metropolitan District Council have been called in to help control the outbreak and the Public Health Laboratory Service has tested food samples from the hospital.

Salmonella organisms have been isolated but the hospital has been unable to pinpoint the source.

Inquests on 15 of the patients, eight women aged between 65 and 88 and seven men aged between 54 and 73, have been opened and are continuing for two weeks for further investigations.

Sir Jack Smart, chairman of Wakefield Health Authority, said yesterday that all the deaths were not necessarily a direct result of food poisoning.

Of the patients in the hospital, 500 are aged 65 and over and nearly 300 over 75.

Mr Alan Pritchard, district administrator, said the bulk of the patients affected had been elderly.

Salmonella outbreaks usually result from contaminated meat or poultry improperly cooked, or handled in unsanitary conditions. Once an outbreak begins it can spread rapidly in confined areas such as hospitals.

While the number of cases of salmonella food poisoning has generally been rising slightly in recent years, outbreaks in hospitals have declined from about 44 a year in the mid-1970s to 26 in 1982.

Although infection is rarely fatal in the young, old people can die from the large loss of fluids which may accompany a severe attack.

Wakefield Health Authority said yesterday that four patients had been transferred to Searcroft Hospital, Leeds, where two died on Tuesday.

TUC reports, page 4

Miners resubmit conditions for talks resumption

Miners' leaders agreed to attend peace talks provisionally arranged for Sunday but only if the coal board accepted union terms, including retention of loss-making pits.

The TUC signalled its willingness to end a six-month boycott of tripartite discussions with the Government and employers' leaders within Neddy.

Next week's threatened disruption on the railways seems certain to be called off after British Rail gave union leaders assurances about the industry's future.

The transport union attempted to step up the national dock strike by calling on all its members in the docks to withdraw their labour.

Page 2

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders agreed last night to go to fresh peace talks aimed at settling the six-month-old pit strike - but only on their own terms.

The National Union of Mineworkers has resubmitted its three-pronged demand for the retention of loss-making collieries as a basis for reopening negotiations with the National Coal Board, provisionally fixed for Sunday night.

A venue for the talks has been arranged in Scotland, but it was not clear last night whether the coal board would accept the terms laid down by the miners for the restart of the peace process.

An exchange of letters yesterday prepared the way for a resumption of negotiations. The coal board sent a hand-delivered message to Mr Peter Heathfield, the union's general secretary, at his hotel in Brighton, proposing the new round of peace talks.

The letter, signed by Mr Kevin Hunt, deputy industrial relations director, said: "Following the chairman's most recent offer I confirm that we will be at a mutually agreed location at 7 pm on Sunday, September 9."

"If the time or date would be inconvenient, the NUM, we will agree a mutually convenient arrangement."

"I hope the board will attend this meeting so that the matter on which you broke off negotiations in July can be resolved, and that you will now drop your demands for the closure of so-called uneconomic pits which started off the dispute, and which is of course in violation of Plan for Coal."

"We hope therefore that when the two sides meet the coal board will be able to confirm its verbal undertaking to:

1. Withdraw the pit closure programme announced on March 6.
2. Keep open the five pits - Polmaise (Scotland), Herrington (Durham), Cortonwood and Bulcliffe Wood (Yorkshire), and Snowdon (Kent), currently under closure threat.
3. Reach agreement with the NUM regarding the exhaustion of colliery reserves on the basis of Plan for Coal.

"As indicated previously, we want to see an expanding and developing industry in line with the Plan for Coal, and in the interests of British miners, their families, and the entire nation. We await your reply."

The coal board is considering the letter.

The Prime Minister will interrupt his visit to Scotland for a special meeting tomorrow of the Cabinet committee on the pits and docks disputes.

Coal production, page 2

TUC signals wish to return to Neddy

From David Pelling, Labour Correspondent, Brighton

The TUC yesterday signalled its willingness to end a six-month boycott of tripartite discussions with the Government and employers' leaders within the National Economic Development Council (Neddy).

The boycott, initiated in protest at the Government's decision to remove union rights at GCHQ in Cheltenham, will probably end after a further meeting between the TUC and the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), which is due to be held at the end of the month.

Delegates to the Brighton congress yesterday rejected by a large majority, a motion from Tass, the white collar engineering union, which called for an indefinite boycott of the council, and instead followed the TUC general council argument that progress could be made by discussions in the tripartite field.

Mr David Bassett, chairman of the TUC economic committee, said that there were "clear, but marginal" advantages to participating in Neddy and added: "We need a very substantial campaign to expose our policies. We can make what we do at the NEDC the centre of our policies."

Until the boycott, the TUC was represented on the council by Mr Bassett, Mr Clive Jenkins, Mr Mostyn Evans, Mr Len Murray, Mr Rodney Bickerstaff, and Mr Terry Duffy.

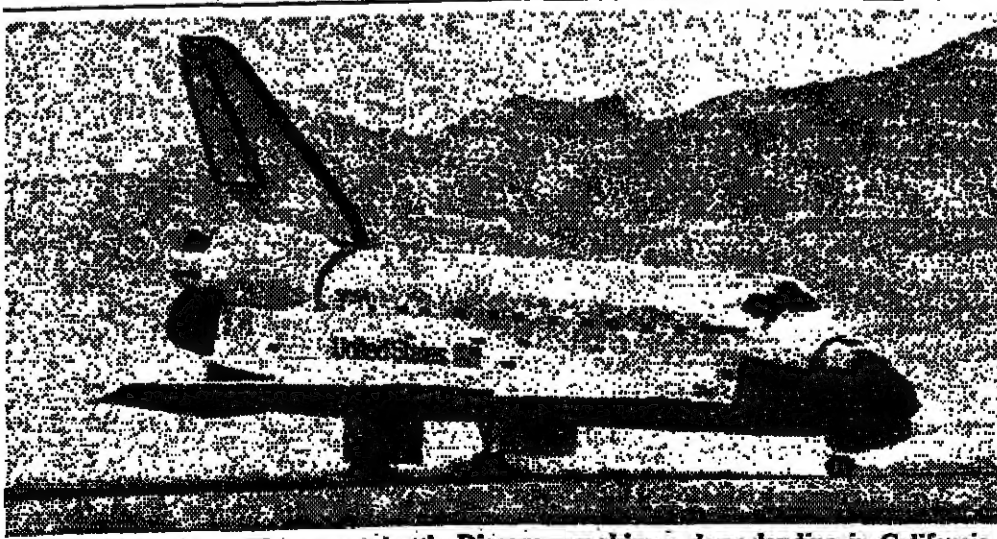
The pressure to return and reopen a dialogue with the Government on economic and employment matters has been increasingly recently as leaders of the labour movement believe that the protest over GCHQ had made its point.

But Mr Kenneth Gill, general secretary of Tass, referred to the TUC representatives as the "gold plated six" who were to be seen "loitering without intent in the corridors of power with the aim of inflating the egos of those who want to rub shoulders with the mighty".

He said that it had not been shown that Neddy "a rich man's monetarist club" had done anything to improve the trade union movement's standing or to change government economic policy.

The decision was welcomed by the CBI, which said that it expected to have the latest stage in a series of meetings with TUC leaders later this month.

TUC reports, page 4



Dawn of Discovery: The space shuttle Discovery making a dawn landing in California yesterday after an almost flawless maiden flight (Report, page 6)

Scotland Yard advises police against Freemasonry

By Stewart Teader Crime Correspondent

Scotland Yard is advising its 27,000 police officers today not to join or remain a member of the Freemasons because they risk raising doubts about their impartiality.

The guidance is included in a new handbook for police professional behaviour in London to be published shortly and the advice against membership of the Freemasons could be extended across the entire police service.

The Home Office confirmed yesterday that the handbook will be circulated to all police forces when it is ready.

It may well cause the police considerable embarrassment. Mr Albert Laughton, deputy commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and author of the handbook, said some senior officers at the Yard and a number of chief constables are Freemasons.

Mr Laughton, consulted both officers who are Freemasons and those who are critical in his research. The advice against Freemasonry is being issued through *The Job*, the London police internal newspaper.

At the end of a lengthy article pointing out the problems of Freemasonry for a policeman, Mr Laughton wrote: "The officer, if a prescient man, will probably consider it wise to forgo the prospect of pleasure and social advantage in Freemasonry so as to enjoy the unreserved regard of all those around him."

While pointing out that membership was a matter of individual judgment - there is no question of any disciplinary action - Yard proscription actively forbidding Freemasonry - Mr Laughton noted that a policeman faced reconciling his oath of impartiality as a constable with the oath of obligation to the Freemasons.

Mr Laughton gave a warning in his article of the marked exclusivity of the institution and the mystery which surrounds the method by which a person is judged by Freemasons to be suitable for membership of a lodge.

"Then there is the oddness of the initiation ceremony itself with its strange rites which smack of immaturity, being reminiscent of the secret societies of boyhood. Finally and most importantly there is the Freemason's obligation solemnly sworn never to reveal the secrets of the craft."

He hoped the advice would lead to a decrease in the number of Freemasons.

Pound falls to new low of \$1.28

The pound fell to a new low just above \$1.28 yesterday as the dollar raced ahead on the foreign exchange markets. It closed just off the bottom, down 1 cent at \$1.2815, but was steadier against other leading currencies which also suffered against the dollar. The pound's trade-weighted value was down 0.1 at 77.7.

Britain's industrial troubles have contributed to sterling's slippage, but foreign exchange dealers put most of the blame on the dollar's rise. However, nervousness about the exchange rate led to some firming in money market interest rates yesterday and hopes of another cut in interest rates have receded.

There is also some concern that if the industrial troubles worsen this could precipitate higher interest rates.

The dollar, which is benefiting from firm American interest rates, closed in London yesterday up 2.55 pence at DM 2.9550. Kenneth Fleet, page 15

The Waterloo Museum presents

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The chess pieces portray many different figures - generals and marshals, and in the case of the pawns, different fighting men from the crack units that covered themselves in glory on the battlefield.

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THE TIMES Tomorrow

The quiet Briton Part II of *The Times* tribute to Graham Greene

Box office hit Terence Stamp comes of age at 46



Irish question Suspicions of a police cover-up over Armagh shootings ricochet through the province

Home birdie? Nick Faldo at Sunningdale may play in Britain more often now that the money is right

Portfolio

Three winners shared yesterday's *Times* Portfolio prize - one of them a nine-year-old girl, the youngest winner so far. Miss Jane Ridley (aged nine), from Norwich, Ms Marilyn Stock, from Combe Martin, North Devon, and Miss Linda Boyd, of Leigh, Tonbridge, Kent, each receive £666.66p. Report and photograph, page 3

Portfolio list, page 18; how to play, information service, back page

Transvaal bombs cut electricity

Unrest continued in the black townships of South Africa as a series of explosions deprived north-west Transvaal of electricity. A limpet mine was discovered in the Rand Supreme Court building in Johannesburg. Looting continued in the townships. Rubber bullets and tear gas were used to disperse the rioters. Page 6

Tonypandy ill

Lord Tonypandy, aged 75, formerly Mr George Thomas, who was Speaker of the Commons, is being treated for throat cancer it was disclosed yesterday.

Invitation denied

Miss Nicola Laitner, with whose rape a man is charged, as well as with the murder of three members of her family, denied at his trial that she had invited him to her house. Page 3

Maxwell stake

Mr Robert Maxwell, owner of Mirror Group Newspapers, spent £9m to boost his stake in Fleet Holdings, publishers of the Express group, to 15.34 per cent. Kenneth Fleet, page 15

Talks deadlock

The Government has virtually abandoned all hope of an early resumption of Anglo-Argentine negotiations. Page 7

Yacht rescue

Eight women in a transatlantic yacht were rescued off Land's End by a passing ship yesterday when their Canadian vessel sank after a fire.

Stratford plan

The Royal Shakespeare Company wants to build a 430-seat theatre within the shell of the Conference Hall at Stratford-on-Avon. Page 14

Leader page 13

Letters: On Far East trade, from Mr W M Cliffe; gambler cut, from Mr P J Barlow; hand-writing, from Mr R F Purves. Leading articles: Canada; TUC; Gadafi.

Features, pages 10, 12

An independent political culture for Hong Kong, by David Howell. The German dream takes a knock; Peace gets a chance in Colombia; Tribute to Graham Greene. Books, page 11. James Fenton, Gay Firth, Nigel Andrew, and Bryan Appleyard review the novels of the week; Sir William Jackson on Ronald Lewin's last book; Basil Boothroyd on nostalgia. Obituaries, page 14. Mr Adam Malik. The Right Rev Francis Moncreiff. Classified, pages 23-27. La crème de la crème; appointments.

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Freeze on benefits for private lodgers

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

The Government has imposed a six-month freeze on the amount of supplementary benefit it will pay to people in private and voluntary residential and nursing homes and for board and lodging because of huge increases in the amounts paid to the owners of such accommodation.

Tougher registration measures for residential homes are also to be introduced, with the maximum fine for operating an unregistered home rising from £500 to £2,000 and whose registration fees are to rise to £100 for homes for and £75 for managers with an annual fee of £10 a place paid to local authorities, who will be obliged to inspect homes at least once a year.

The moves were announced yesterday by Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Social Security, in a statement tantamount to accepting that the Government made a serious mistake last November when it changed the rules for meeting accommodation charges from supplementary benefit.

Over the past year or so, the costs of board and lodging allowances have risen steeply, he said. In the year to last December, the costs for people in residential and nursing homes rose from £39m to £102m while the numbers provided for rose by only two-thirds.

The numbers in ordinary board and lodging rose by about half, but total spending went up from £166m to £270m. Mr Boyson said: "The Government is committed to controlling expenditure, and increases on this scale cannot be allowed to continue."

As an interim measure, the present limits are to be frozen until the spring, and the ceilings on the level of charges to be paid will in future be decided centrally by ministers rather than by local offices. Proposals on how to do that will be put forward in the autumn.

Although the figures released by the Department of Health and Social Security yesterday go up only to last December, social services departments believe that there has since been a further steep increase in charges for accommodation.

Under changes introduced last November, local offices set ceilings on what they could pay home owners based on average in the local area.

Figures released by the department yesterday show that the average payment for people in residential homes last year was £75.25, but evidence which the department gave the House of Commons Social Services Committee in June showed the average local limit was £116 for residential homes and £149 for nursing homes.

US double-deck bus order may be worth £350m

Leyland Bus announced yesterday that it is set to export double-deck buses to the United States in a deal that could be worth up to £350m.

The company is hoping to complete negotiations with the Cillig Corporation of Hayward, California, later this year to market jointly the Leyland Olympian in American cities.

The firm said it estimated up to 10 per cent of the 50,000 single-deck buses in America could be replaced by double-deck buses with operators making substantial savings.

The Olympians, which cost about £70,000 in Britain, are built at Leyland's Worthington plant in Cumbria. The company is the world's largest manufacturer of double-deck buses.

The first Olympian bus is being shipped to the US and will make its first appearance at the International Public Transit Exhibition in Washington DC between October 1 and 3.

'Belgrano' aide resigns

The private secretary to the minister at the centre of the General Belgrano "cover-up" allegations is resigning from the Civil Service (Our Political Correspondent writes).

But Mr Philip Francis, secretary to Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said last night: "There is nothing sinister in this: it's just the timing that's unfortunate."

Union to recruit flying pickets to save national dock strike

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

Dockers' leaders called yesterday for what may be a last-ditch attempt to make their national strike effective.

Other Transport and General Workers Union members particularly lorry drivers, will be urged to give "physical" support to their waterfront colleagues.

"Flying pickets" are to be organized nationally to beef up the industrial action which has brought out about 7,600 of the 13,500 registered workforce.

The national directive could mean that union resources will concentrate on Grimsby, where fish is being landed by non-union labour and Hunterston, where coal ships for Ravenscroft steel are being berthed without dockers.

Other registered ports which have accepted vessels diverted from strike bound docks could also see a substantial increase in picketing.

But in a BBC interview Mr John Connolly, national docks officer, said that it remained to be seen what the response would be.

Amid signs of grassroots dissent, the 22-strong national dock committee refused yesterday to countenance a final meeting of dock delegates, the only body able to call off the stoppage. Instead, it reaffirmed the union's policy of opposing breaches in the national dock labour scheme with industrial action. There was no enthusiasm for a climb down in a week when the TUC's congress made militant noises over the miners' strike.

About 60 more port workers joined the stoppage yesterday at Fleetwood, Lancashire, and the Manchester Ship Canal wharves. But at Southampton, 50 out of 1,100 employees signed a petition calling for a

Children at play found silver hoard

A hoard of 672 silver coins, some more than 400 years old, which were unearthed last Easter by holidaying children making a den on a mid Wales farm, were declared treasure trove by an inquest jury yesterday.

The inquest, at Builth Wells, Powys, was told that the coins would have represented "a small fortune" in their day. Mr George Boon, keeper of archaeology and numismatics at the National Museum of Wales, said the coins, shilling and sixpence pieces minted between 1551 and 1662, had been clipped, reducing their value.

Clipping was common at the time by people melting down silver. At the end of the Seventeenth century the royal mint called in such coins because a new coinage was to be issued.

The coins were discovered by Kristian Gething, aged nine, from Howey, near Llandrindod Wells, and his cousins Andrew Nelson, aged nine, and his sisters Jennifer, aged eight, and Cheryl, aged 11, from Wroughton, near Swindon.

After the inquest Mr Boon said an independent treasure trove committee would sit in London soon to decide on the compensation to be paid to the children. He expected it to be about £100 each.

A Bishop Auckland coroner's jury decided yesterday that a metal detector enthusiast could keep the handful of tenth century Viking silver ingots he found last year. A Blackpool fireman, Mr Brian Wilson, discovered 21 pieces of silver weighing nearly a pound at Old Spittle Farm, near Bowes, co Durham.

Verdict on prostitute

Michael Pratt, aged 38, a male prostitute, who was also known as Benner, and Rauch, collapsed from a drink and drugs overdose in his bedroom at Manor Court Hotel, Clarendon Gardens, Paddington, west London, on July 19 and was dead on arrival at Westminster Hospital, an inquest was told yesterday.

A statement to the Westminster coroner from Dr C J Sergeant, from the Royal Free

Hospital, said that Mr Pratt had a long psychiatric history involving a personality disorder and bouts of depression, "often associated with the breakup of homosexual relationships".

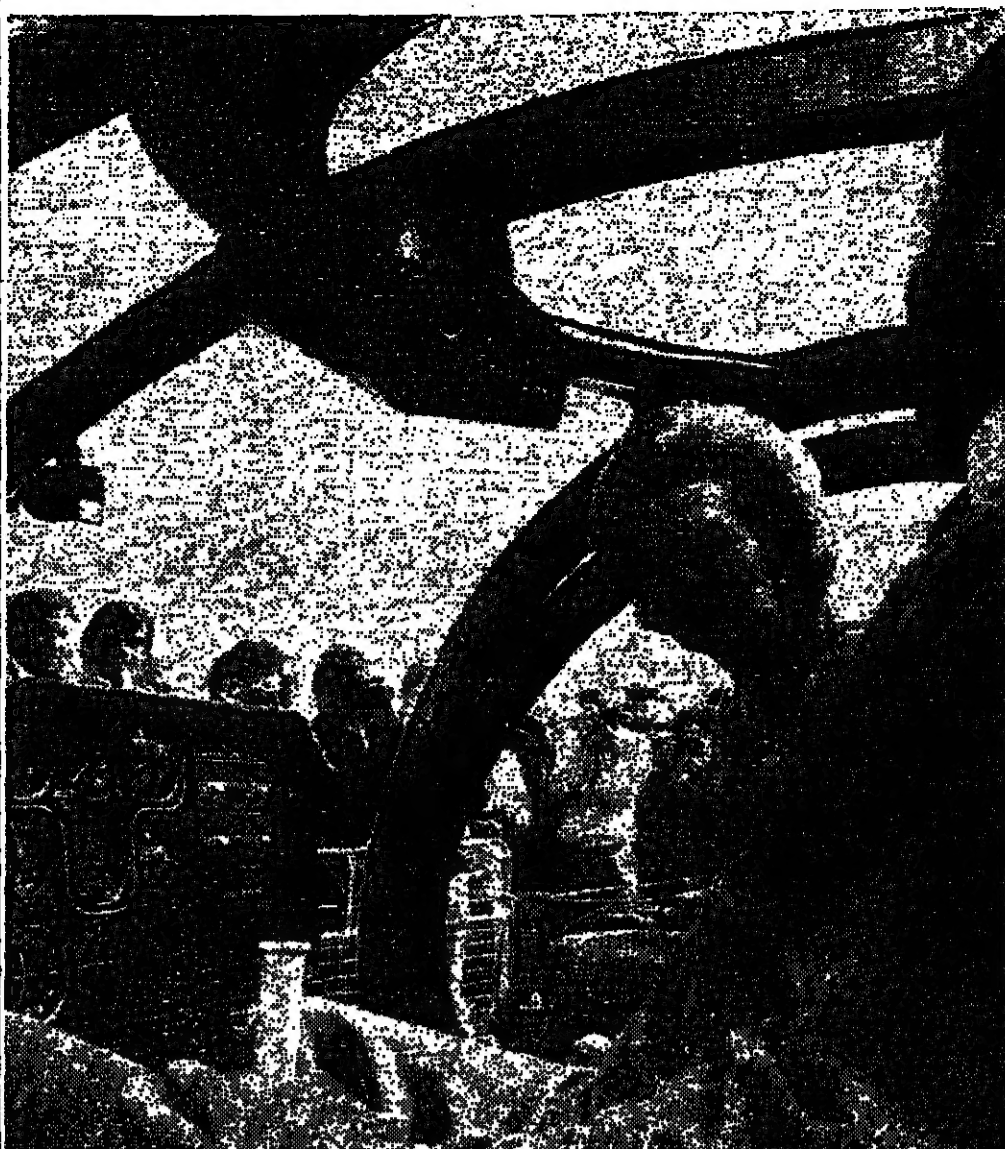
Dr Sergeant said: "After he had an argument with an ex-boyfriend he phoned the duty doctor on July 5, saying he wanted to kill himself. The upshot was he was again admitted for eight hours to the ward."

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As she talked yesterday in her Oxford flat, she did something most people take for granted - she answered a knock at the door.

Miss Rees, aged 21, a second-year English undergraduate at Balliol College, received the ear implant three weeks ago at the London Hospital.



Mrs Thatcher in the new Optica observation aircraft (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

PM gives Soviet planes a miss

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Prime Minister carefully avoided snubbing the large Soviet presence at the Farnborough Air Show yesterday, but Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, was less diplomatic.

Commenting on Soviet hopes of making aerospace technology transfer deals with Britain, Mr Heseltine said: "It is very difficult to see how you can have technological cooperation with a nation which just poses the major threat that we face."

"Obviously, in an ideal world, we would like to get a much better relationship with the Soviet Union, but until that happens I don't think that we can be in any way dependent on them for the defence equipment upon which we rely."

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who spent about five hours touring the show and watching the air display with her husband, was driven slowly past a Soviet Mi-26 helicopter, the largest in the world. But she did not stop.

She said she was pleased with the excellent work of British Aerospace companies. She made clear she had not ignored the Russians who are exhibiting at Farnborough for the first time, but wanted to devote her visit to the British contingent.

Mrs Thatcher was accompanied by Sir Raymond Lygo, president of the Society of British Aerospace Companies and managing director of British Aerospace. Among the aircraft she visited were the Firecracker, the only British-designed competitor in the race to win the

order for the next RAF trainer. Mr Thatcher also looked at the BAe 146 jet, a new version of which was announced this week, and the Belfast-made Short's aircraft. She met M Jacques Mitterrand, head of the French Aerospace company, and Senator Barrie Goldwater, said by his entourage to be representing the United States President.

The Society of British Aerospace Companies said earlier that it had no plans to change arrangements for visitors after Tuesday's crash of a de Havilland Buffalo at the show. The aircraft was badly damaged and debris damaged the public side of the safety fence. Several other aircraft and a car were also damaged. The crew were unhurt.

Britain's sole manufacturer of aircraft fire detection systems called for a world ban on duty-free alcohol in airlines.

Mr Nigel Randall, director of aerospace systems for Craviner, a company based in Slough, said that with spirits carried daily in aircraft "we are flying around with a petrol bomb".

Graviner's products are fitted to thousands of aircraft, including half of all 747 Jumbo jets. Mr Randall added: "A Jumbo jet can carry anything from 20 to 50 gallons of spirits and in the event of a crash this is almost certain to catch fire."

BA offers to share 12 routes with airline

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

A plan to resolve the deadlock over route-sharing with British Caledonian has been put by British Airways to the Government. Its chief executive, Mr Colin Marshall, disclosed yesterday.

He also announced a record operating profit of £81m in the first quarter of the year, 15.5 per cent up on 1983, and encouraging trends for the remainder of the year.

The British Airways plan involves direct competition between the two airlines on 12 unnamed routes to Europe, the Middle East and North America. This according to British Airways, would add £75m or 20 per cent to British

Caledonia's turnover, with an extra £7.5m profit for an outlay of some £50m by the independent airline.

But BA would want to retain a 70-80 per cent traffic share on the routes at least initially, Mr Marshall added, because that would be "equitable", would avoid union trouble at the state airline and would not delay privatization early next year.

Mr Marshall said the new plan represented a "genuine attempt by us to find a solution to the impasse that has developed".

The BA statement "says nothing new", British Caledonian statement said yesterday.

Deal likely over civil service pay

By Our Labour Reporter

Union leaders representing 520,000 civil servants met Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary last night, amid growing signs that they were prepared to accept the government's 4.55 per cent pay offer.

Trade union leaders were to have pressed Mr King to go to arbitration, but there has been little enthusiasm among civil servants for more delays in implementing the offer.

Union leaders were also told last night that Mr King would continue to refuse to take the pay dispute to arbitration.

The Civil Service executive of the largest union, the Civil and Public Services Association, has voted 9-1 in favour of acceptance and the others are expected to fall into line.

Seven rescued

Seven fishermen were rescued in the North Sea yesterday when their 80-ft Peterhead boat, Fentile, sank soon after colliding with another fishing boat

order for the next RAF trainer.

Mr Thatcher also looked at the BAe 146 jet, a new version of which was announced this week, and the Belfast-made Short's aircraft. She met M Jacques Mitterrand, head of the French Aerospace company, and Senator Barrie Goldwater, said by his entourage to be representing the United States President.

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Airlines' spirits 'are flying petrol bombs'

By Our Political Correspondent

Lord Fanshawe, "Increasing business commitments".

Policy Unit, dealing with Home Office matters and aspects of industrial relations, is to join Good Relations Corporate Affairs on September 24.

The company already employs Mr Paul Tyler, a former Liberal MP, and Mr Peter Luff, a former head of Mr Edward Heath's private office.

Sir Anthony Grant, Conservative MP for Cambridge, South-West, and Mr Michael Mates, Conservative MP for Hampshire East, act as the company's parliamentary advisers.

One of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's political policy advisers is leaving Number 10 to become an account director with a public relations company.

Mr Peter Shipley, who has completed a two-year assignment in the Downing Street

Tory vice-chairman retires to business

By Our Political Correspondent

Lord Fanshawe, the former MP for Richmond, Sir Anthony Royle, has retired as vice-chairman of the Conservative Party organization. It was announced yesterday.

He was responsible for the selection of parliamentary candidates during the last Parliament. The Prime Minister asked him to stay on as a vice-chairman for another year after he was made a peer in 1983.

Although there had been a suggestion that "new blood" was needed to bolster party organization under the new chairman, Mr John Gummer, Conservative Central Office said yesterday that Lord Fanshawe was leaving because of increasing business commitments.

One of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's political policy advisers is leaving Number 10 to become an account director with a public relations company.

Mr Peter Shipley, who has completed a two-year assignment in the Downing Street

order for the next RAF trainer. Mr Thatcher also looked at the BAe 146 jet, a new version of which was announced this week, and the Belfast-made Short's aircraft. She met M Jacques Mitterrand, head of the French Aerospace company, and Senator Barrie Goldwater, said by his entourage to be representing the United States President.

The Society of British Aerospace Companies said earlier that it had no plans to change arrangements for visitors after Tuesday's crash of a de Havilland Buffalo at the show. The aircraft was badly damaged and debris damaged the public side of the safety fence. Several other aircraft and a car were also damaged. The crew were unhurt.

Britain's sole manufacturer of aircraft fire detection systems called for a world ban on duty-free alcohol in airlines.

Mr Nigel Randall, director of aerospace systems for Craviner, a company based in Slough, said that with spirits carried daily in aircraft "we are flying around with a petrol bomb".

Graviner's products are fitted to thousands of aircraft, including half of all 747 Jumbo jets. Mr Randall added: "A Jumbo jet can carry anything from 20 to 50 gallons of spirits and in the event of a crash this is almost certain to catch fire."

Coal production and coal consumption both fell to their lowest monthly level for years in July, as a result of the miners' strike, according to Department of Energy statistics published yesterday.

The effects of the strike, coupled with the seasonally low level of energy demand in mid-summer, pushed coal consumption down to 4.2 million tonnes, three million tonnes less than in July last year. Production was 2.7 million tonnes, against 7.6 million tonnes the previous July.

Coal consumption in the three months May to July was 41.2 per cent less than in the corresponding period last year, underlining the extent of the electricity industry's attempts to conserve coal stocks by switching to oil-fired generation in power stations wherever possible.

The switch to oil-fired power stations meant that oil consumption was up by 31.5 per cent between May and July, the provisional statistics show. Overall this year, oil use is 14.3 per cent higher.

Despite the shutdown in most coalfields, Britain is still more than self-sufficient in energy. Helped by rising North Sea oil production it produced about 15 per cent more energy than it used in the quarter to July.

Overall energy demand is 3.6 per cent less than during last year, but Whitehall officials say that reflects more efficient use of energy rather than any effect of the coal dispute.

Panic grain sales 'could push prices even lower'

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

With grain prices at their lowest for two years, the National Farmers' Union yesterday warned growers not to risk depressing the market still further by panic selling.

In anticipation of a record harvest in Britain, the rest of Europe and north America, the average price for feed wheat fell last week to £99.70 and for feed barley to £99.30 a tonne. It is the first time since 1982 that either has dropped below £100 a tonne.

Mr Rowan Cherrington, chairman of the union's cereals committee, reminded farmers that they had the option to sell into intervention storage, provided their grain met the required standards.

Even allowing for delivery costs and payment delays, the intervention price of £113.05, rising to £114.64 this month, suggested that the market should improve in the coming months, he said.

The Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce said yesterday that neither the size of the harvest nor the possible effect on exports of a continuation of the dock strike was at present causing concern.

By the end of last month, just over 2m tonnes of grain had been offered for intervention purchase. The normal pattern would be for stocks to build up between now and the end of the year, at the beginning of this year the board held some 1.8m tonnes in store.

Murder charge

A youth aged 15 was remanded in custody yesterday when he appeared before Newbury Juvenile Court, charged with the murder of Michael Collins, aged eight, from Speen, near Newbury, Berkshire. An application for bail was refused.

The accounts show that salaries for the 524 staff who work in the new commission average almost £17,000.

The miners' strike

Low coal production matched by demand

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

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Pit damage 'threatens coalfield'

By Staff Reporters

Striking South Wales miners have been warned that the entire coalfield - the biggest loss-maker in Britain - is under threat as coalfaces and mines deteriorate through lack of maintenance.

Four faces in four pits are unlikely ever to be worked again and others will be lost as roadways are severely damaged, roofs crushed and floors lifted. Expensive consulting equipment and roof supports have been trapped and condensation is threatening the specialized underground electrical switchgear and transport systems.

The warning is given in a special South Wales issue of the National Coal News newspaper. Coal News which states that at the beginning of the dispute 18 pits out of 28 voted against the strike.

"Since that time the men who voted to work have had to remain a silent majority suffering great hardship without the hope of a proper ballot." As a result, it says, each miner in South Wales has lost an average of £3,300 in wages.

Twelve striking miners from north Derbyshire were remanded in custody yesterday after appearing in court in Chesterfield on charges of riotous assembly and unlawful assembly in connection with an alleged attack on working miners in the county last week.

Another man was charged with unlawful assembly. The men were remanded until tomorrow. Mr John Calvert, for the prosecution, said that the men had planned the attack at a strike centre at Clay Cross and had gone into Chesterfield to carry it out. Reporting restrictions were lifted.

A maintenance worker at the Betteshanger colliery, Kent, was attacked and injured by striking miners when he emerged from the pit entrance yesterday to talk to pickets. He was taken to hospital and later released.

But Mr Steel said that any efforts to bring an agreement could hardly be helped by a comment by the Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, that no pit should be closed until all coal which could be worked safely had been mined, no matter what the cost.

That would not do, said Mr Steel. "The tragedy of Britain's mining industry is that there are new, rich coal seams which could be worked more safely and more profitably than many current pits."

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Student hears remembered sounds

From Our Correspondent, Oxford

Jessica Rees, an Oxford undergraduate, has returned home from hospital to start a new life with an extra dimension.

Miss Rees, who has been deaf since she was four, has partially regained her hearing after an implant operation.

As she talked yesterday in her Oxford flat, she did something most people take for granted - she answered a knock at the door.

Miss Rees, aged 21, a second-year English undergraduate at Balliol College, received the ear implant three weeks ago at the London Hospital.

She said: "I can hear about 40 per cent of what you can hear. Speech will become more distinct as time goes on. Part of my body has been dismissed for so long it is like when an arm or a leg goes numb and the sensation of feeling comes flooding back."

"It will make a very large psychological difference to my life. It stops the feeling of isolation. I can hear traffic coming and when I have children I will be able to hear them."

The operation has put an end to the background noise called tinnitus. "It was a dreadful shadow noise day and night of engines revving and dogs

barking. It used to annoy me terribly."

She emphasized that she is still partly deaf and needs to lip read, but she expects to be able to play a full part in study discussions next term and to get more from her lectures.

Hidden in her subconscious were memories of sounds. When doctors played notes to her she sang them back in perfect pitch and noises she has not heard for many years are strangely familiar.

Miss Rees is still waiting for the final piece of equipment to be fitted to the complicated network of wires and electronics and until then she will find it difficult to listen to music.

She said: "I can hear about 40 per cent of what you can hear. Speech will become more distinct as time goes on. Part of my body has been dismissed for so long it is like when an arm or a leg goes numb and the sensation of feeling comes flooding back."

"It will make a very large psychological difference to my life. It stops the feeling of isolation. I can hear traffic coming and when I have children I

Survivor of knifed family denies inviting accused into her house

Miss Nichola Laitner, the sole survivor of a wedding day orgy of violence which wiped out three members of her family, came face to face yesterday with the man accused of the killings and of raping her at knifepoint.

She sat in the witness box in Durham Crown Court, just 15 ft from the dock where Arthur Hutchinson, aged 43, was handcuffed between two prison officers.

Mr Hutchinson, of Kelso Grove, Hardlepool, Cleveland, is charged with murdering a Sheffield solicitor, Mr Basil Laitner, his wife Avril, a doctor, and their son Richard, aged 21, at their home in Dore, Sheffield, after a wedding reception for their elder daughter, Suzanne, on October 23 last year.

He is also charged with unlawful sexual intercourse with Miss Nichola Laitner, aged 18, and with aggravated burglary. He denies all the charges. Mr James Stewart, QC, defending Mr Hutchinson, asked Miss Laitner yesterday why she had stayed at home and not joined her family at a dinner at her uncle's home after the wedding reception. They were killed after they returned home from dinner.

Mr Stewart suggested that she had met Mr Hutchinson in a Sheffield city centre public house on the Friday before the wedding and invited him back to the house after the reception and that was why she had not attended the dinner.

"That's stupid," she replied. Mr Stewart suggested that she has met Mr Hutchinson casually as he was buying a drink. "He said to you: 'Is there a shortage of men in Sheffield or are they all just poofs?'" Mr Stewart said.

"No," Miss Laitner replied. Council suggested that the conversation has continued with her telling Mr Hutchinson that it was her sister's wedding that weekend and there was to be a hen party where there would be plenty of women. Again, she denied the suggestion.

Then, Mr Stewart said, she said that she was doing in Sheffield, to which he replied that he was in lodgings there.

From Peter Davenport, Durham

while working in Barnsley. He told her the address and she told him she knew where it was. The man told her that his name was Pat O'Reardon. "You asked him if he wanted to come out to the house," Mr Stewart said. Miss Laitner retorted: "No."

He said that Mr Hutchinson allegedly replied: "Aren't I a little out of your age group?" Miss Laitner told Mr Stewart: "It's a load of rubbish."

He continued: "I suggest you gave him instructions on how to get to the house before you left the pub." Miss Laitner: "None of that is true."

She also denied that she had left the patio door to the house unattended or that she had told him that she would arrange for a bottle of champagne from the reception to be left in the kitchen.

Mr Stewart said that Mr Hutchinson, allegedly, asked, when he entered the house, why there was no furniture in the lounge. She had explained that it had been removed for the reception and suggested they go to her bedroom to listen to some tapes. Miss Laitner denied that.

Mr Stewart: "I suggest that you went to your bedroom and he followed you and you put on some music." Miss Laitner: "No."

Mr Stewart: "The two of you danced together." Miss Laitner: "No."

Mr Stewart: "You kissed." Miss Laitner: "No."

Mr Stewart: "You petted." Miss Laitner: "No."

Mr Stewart: "You stripped off." Miss Laitner: "No."



Miss Nichola Laitner yesterday

Mr Stewart: "You got on the bed and sexual intercourse took place." Miss Laitner: "No."

Mr Stewart suggested that afterwards she took from a drawer a folded packet from which she took white powder which she then snuffed.

She again rejected the suggestion. She also rejected Mr Stewart's suggestion that she and Mr Hutchinson had then had sex a second time with her consent.

She denied that a conversation took place in which she might have indicated signs of affection towards Mr Hutchinson.

"I only spoke to him just to stop him wanting to kill me," she said.

Miss Laitner also rejected counsel's suggestion that she had arranged to meet Mr Hutchinson the following Wednesday outside Sheffield library.

She said that while they were having intercourse Mr Hutchinson told her to close her eyes. She agreed that there was no covering on his face.

As a result she was able to give an excellent and detailed description of him to a police officer. She recognized photographs of him shown to her subsequently and also recognized his voice when a tape of a man speaking was broadcast on Radio Sheffield.

The jury of six men and six women have been told by Mr Robin Stewart, QC, for the prosecution, that Mr Hutchinson knifed the three Laitners to death before repeatedly raping Miss Laitner.

Earlier yesterday she told the court that before her family returned from dinner, and after making three or four telephone calls to friends, she undressed and went to bed.

"The next thing I was aware of was my mother screaming." Then she heard scuffling noises in her darkened room which she thought might have been her father coming to say goodnight after arriving home. But the person said nothing and left after 30 seconds.

The next thing she heard, she told the court, was the "shouting, shrieking" voices of two men, one her father, followed by "a massive scream and choking". The case continues.



Youngest Times Portfolio winner, Jane Ridley, aged nine, was thrilled yesterday when she heard she was a winner in *The Times* Portfolio competition. She will share the £2,000 prize with two other winners. Jane, the youngest winner, her brother Joseph, aged 13, and their mother, Ann, each have a card and have been taking part for two months.

Her father, Rex, a Norwich shopkeeper, said they would let her spend some of the money and invest the rest. Jane pictured with her pet kitten at her home in Upper Tarburgh, Norfolk.

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Engineers' defeat keeps open possibility of unions' return to Neddy

Reports by John Winder, Derek Barnett, and Stephen Goodwin

A majority of 1,601,000 on card vote at the 116th annual TUC Congress at the Brighton Conference Centre yesterday kept open the way for the general council to return to the National Economic Development Council.

A motion by the Technical, Administrative and Supervisory section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers instructing the council not to participate was rejected by 3,650,000 to 4,049,000.

Mr David Barnett, for the general council, opening the debate, said that significant progress would have had to be demonstrated in the methods of the NEDC before the TUC economic committee, and the general council decided to end their boycott, which started as a protest against the Conservative ban on trade unions at GCHQ.

Mr Kenneth Gill, General Secretary of Tass, moved the motion, which was taken with two composite motions on related economic subjects. It read: "Given the Government's legislative and repressive attack on the trade union movement, and its unyielding commitment to economic policies which create mass unemployment and reduce the standard of living of our members, congress instructs the general council not to participate in the NEDC."

He said that listening without intent in the corridors of power might inflame the egos of those who wanted to rub shoulders with the mighty, but did nothing for their members.

Mr Barnett, general secretary of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, said that the movement must sharpen its attack on the failure of the Government's monetarist experiment. It must develop alternative policies relevant to members' experience and concerns, and passionately, persuasively, and intelligently.

The Government was fond of telling trade unions to face the facts, so it should face a greater proportion of national output had been lost in this depression than in the great depression of 1929-34.

The critical issue was to establish the facts of economic life and to convince people that the movement's analysis was correct.

One motion called for a conference of union executives in the public sector. The general council, for which he was speaking, had reservations whether that was the best way and needed to determine its timing and precise form.

Dealing with the Tass motion asking for withdrawal from the NEDC, he said that the council could be an important public platform for the TUC's alternative policies, indeed one of the few platforms left open.

The congress had always been in favour of tripartism but it must be to its advantage in the long run. That was why it stayed on the MSC and would continue to remain as long as it could demonstrate long-term benefits to its members.

Last year, the congress had overwhelmingly rejected withdrawal from NEDC, but the GCHQ issue had demanded a response and so the council had suspended attendance.

That had remained the council position, but it had forced changes. The CBI was sceptical of government attitudes and policy, particularly for members in building and civil engineering. There was scope for a major push on infrastructure investment and construction by the TUC and CBI.

The Tass motion would also undermine the council's negotiating position with the CBI and Government on working methods of the NEDC. If the congress endorsed the general council's report and rejected the motion, a Labour meeting on the TUC-CBI committee would be held and the result would be considered by the economic committee and general council.

Then and only then, if significant progress had been judged to have been made, will the general council's representatives return to the NEDC. The general council is seeking a negotiating mandate from congress not a challenge to it.

The choice was clear: to continue the fight against monetarism by every means possible and on every platform possible, or to retreat.

The second choice was giving TUC representatives the luxury of talking to themselves and never having to put policies to the test. The first was harder, but ultimately more rewarding.

Mr Mostyn Evans, General Secretary of Transport and General Workers' Union, moved a composite motion deploring the Government's complacent attitude



Mr Evans: "Economy getting worse"

to continuing mass unemployment. It called for a vigorous campaign to combat government economic policies and said that the congress must present strategy which would command the support of the vast majority of the electorate. It also demanded a comprehensive policy statement setting out specific long-term objectives and priorities to be placed before the 1985 congress.

Mr Evans said that the Government said that it was at long last on the road to success because of its tough surgery but they all knew and the nation knew that the economy was getting worse.

The only reason there had not been serious financial collapse was North Sea oil revenues. British goods were 40 per cent over priced in world markets because of the false value of sterling and the long history of under-investment and poor management.

That could not be blamed on wages because British wages were low by international standards.

Mr Alan Tuffin, General Secretary of the Union of Communications Workers, said that they had to consider a range of issues involved in the work ethic. Those who had faced job losses knew that even when there was growth, employers used methods designed to avoid more employment - new technology, bonus and productivity schemes and excessive overtime.

His view of the traditional working week was becoming increasingly old fashioned as many sought to change hours to meet social circumstances.

Overtime was a way of propping



Mr Gill: "No effect on policy"

up inadequate basic wages but it was a scandal that with up to four million looking for work three million adult male workers were doing overtime.

Mr Tom Sawyer, National Union of Public Employees, moving a second composite motion condemning the Government's public spending plans, and calling for them to be increased, said that cuts hit poor families hard: not just the miners were starving, but seven million people living on inadequate incomes.

It was offensive and repugnant to men and women who had paid taxes to build up profitable public industry to find that they were asked to buy shares in British Telecom, which they owned.

Mr Kevin Fitzgerald, National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, said that they needed increased spending on wages to create demand for manufactured goods, on health, welfare and education to build their capacity as a working population in response to increased economic activity and on nationalized industries as a basis for planned growth.

Mr Gill, moving the motion, said only the general council had severe withdrawal symptoms.

"There is not a jot of evidence

that our gold-plated six, which is what we call them amongst ourselves, have had the slightest effect on any policy since 1979."

The pull-out had come in disgust when the Government smashed trade unionism at GCHQ, Cheltenham. And the Government had not changed its mind. It had continued attacking workers.

Why could the general council not be as consistent as the Government? There was no need to attend Neddy. Workers could put a clear point of view and the general council could speak to ministers on issues affecting members across the table, in confrontation, and without the charade of pursuing so-called common objectives.

The answer for returning to Neddy was that the CBI shared some of the TUC's criticisms but this was a shabby pretext for reentering this rich man's monetarist club.

There was no moral, political or economic justification for going into Neddy again.

Mr Larry Smith, Transport and General Workers' Union, seconding the motion, said: "I am rapidly coming to the conclusion that the only way to change Margaret Thatcher's mind is by brain transplant, on BUFA of course. But I only hope she does not look around her Cabinet for a donor."

It was unrealistic not to believe that to go back to Neddy with their tails between their legs when the Government had made no concession would be interpreted as an act of surrender.

Mr William Keys, secretary of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades '82, moving his union's motion on repressive government policies, said his objective was to defeat this Government and to return a Labour government.

The media abdicated its responsibility. Any serious and balanced political debate was stifled by it. How could one expect otherwise when most of the media was controlled by a few multi-national individuals with little sympathy for the mass or ordinary working people?

Mr Alex Smith, secretary of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers, second in the motion, said the movement had to get the return of a Labour government and to work in partnership, not to kick it in the crutch every time the going got rough.

Mr Martin Turner, Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, said there was disturbing evidence that the recession was affecting women's employment particularly adversely.

Mr Ray Alderson, Civil and Public Services Association, supporting the motion on public spending, said his union was non-political in the party political sense. It was not affiliated to the Labour Party, but fighting for public sector pay and jobs would bring it up against the Government.

Mr Barnett said Neddy could not be destroyed if the TUC wanted a Labour government which would plan the economy. It would take years to bring Neddy back with all its knowledge and expertise.

"I am a negotiator, do not deny me the chance to negotiate."

Both composite motions were agreed on a show of hands.



Pensive pose: Mr Len Murray and Mr William Sims (Photograph: John Manning)

Government condemned for its deliberate education cutbacks

Attacks on the Government's education policy came from delegates who unanimously passed a motion by the National Union of Teachers which condemned the Government's deliberate cut in resources and plans for further cutbacks.

During the debate on the motion, Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, speaking for general council, said that the death rattle of the consensus in public education had been heard in the land.

The motion criticized the Government for reducing the powers of local education authorities, for its penalties against local government spending on education, its centralization of control of education, its support for privatization of education services and its attacks on the principle of comprehensive education.

The Government's alleged failure to reform effectively the examination system for those aged 16-19, to provide funds to expand nursery education and to estimate properly the future demand for higher education were also criticized.

The motion called on the general council to renew and extend the campaign for a comprehensive, properly staffed and resourced public education service. It asked the government to give the funds to create education opportunities, to allow wider access to universities and higher education and to increase staffing.

Mr Jenkins said that a vigorous and expanding education system was vital to the nation's economic and social future. Higher education particularly was the key to opening up an important research and development effort on which future employment depended. The UK could not hope to compete with countries which were training their young people.

He hoped that the TUC national education centre would have qualifications and award diploma with travelling scholarships. He wanted TUC leaders to go to teach. It was proposed to create a new cadre of informed young trade union leaders.

Mr Peter Griffiths, of the National Union of Teachers, moving his union's motion, spoke of the continuing and depressing downward spiral of education provision in Britain. There had been serious attacks on dedicated teachers during the current pay negotiations which, for the time being only, had denied teachers a few sheep on a collection of rocks in the south Atlantic.

Mr Paddy Mallon, Association of University Teachers, said the South of England always won in taking up places in higher education. Mature students waiting a second chance were being pushed out by lack of places. The Government was saying that if more people were to become university entrants, standards would be reduced. This was elitism.

It was a human sacrifice of children, youth, the entire community, on the altar of public spending priorities. The Government was looking at ways of broadening the secondary school curriculum instead of abandoning subjects such as music, poetry and real life skills.

Mr Len Mills, General Secretary of the Banking Insurance and Finance Union, introducing the motion, said they needed to look at the quality of education in relation to the needs of the economy and society.

Mr Gordon Green, of the National Union of Teachers, said that it was the considered view of many people who were programing for next year in large urban areas that only one school leaver in six or seven would be guaranteed full employment.

"It is a national disgrace. We are betraying a whole generation of young people," he said.

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'Don't walk away from 400,000 youngsters'

A move that could have led to the TUC withdrawing support for the Government's Youth Training Scheme was comfortably defeated by the congress yesterday on a show of hands.

Mr Clive Jenkins, on behalf of the general council, urged unions who had remained aloof from the scheme to opt in and "get their hands dirty". It was because they were protesting against it that unions should get involved.

The congress carried a motion deploring the failure of the Government's White Paper on Youth Training Scheme (YTS). In the year, it condemned the scheme to increase significantly the 22 per cent allowance to those on the scheme and benefit cuts for those who refused a place or left early.

An amendment by the National and Local Government Officers' Association adding that the TUC General Council could withdraw support for the scheme from March unless the Government was ready to meet criticisms of the scheme was defeated.

Mr Jenkins, general secretary of ASTMS, said that the TUC could not walk away from the 400,000 people on the scheme. "If we did that, there would be many who would be ready to say we were not interested, we did not care."

"We would not want these 400,000 young people to think that when they go out into the world, they are going to get rough the trade unionists opt out."

Without the three TUC commissioners for the scheme there would be no pressure to increase the allowance paid, and no pressure to remove computers, improve health and safety or to monitor equal opportunities.

Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, said the past year had done nothing to ally trade unionists anxieties.

The scheme was not sufficiently monitored and it did not provide a big enough allowance, greater and greater wages made private training agencies.

Mr David Stockford, Nalco, moving the amendment, said Nalco did not want to see trade union support withdrawn, but if the Government would not put the scheme to its members and young people to call it a day and pull out.

The Government saw the Youth Training Scheme only as a way of keeping down the unemployment figures and cutting unemployment benefits. The scheme was a way of keeping down the unemployment figures and cutting unemployment benefits. The scheme was a way of keeping down the unemployment figures and cutting unemployment benefits.

Demand for 35-hour working week

The TUC is to publish detailed guidelines for union negotiators on reducing the working week. The congress passed one resolution instructing unions to seek a 35-hour week without loss of pay.

They also called for a campaign to secure a minimum of six weeks holiday and phased reduction of the working week for those over 55.

The TUC is urged to press the government for legislation to limit the amount of overtime in any week and, in the longer term, to get the retirement age down to 55.

Mr David Barnett, on behalf of the general council, while fully supporting the campaign for a shorter working week, said that on legislation to limit overtime the general council were committed only to discussions with a future "sympathetic" government. Their immediate objective on retirement age was to get it down to 60.

The next congress would review the campaign for a shorter working week.

Mr Jerry Russell, AUEW (Engineering Section) moving the resolution, said a 35-hour week could create 750,000 jobs.

European nations had shown a far greater willingness to sack unemployment by reducing hours. In Belgium, a 35-hour working week was almost normal for everyone.

"In Thatcher's Britain we work on average more hours and suffer higher unemployment than almost any other country in the western industrialized world."

Fifty per cent male manual workers worked overtime. The average was 9½ hours a week. "So in some sectors of British industry we have still to work the 40-hour week," Mr Russell said.

Mr Bryan Stanley, general secretary of the Post Office Engineering Union, seconding the resolution, said to provide work for all meant there must be a shorter working life.

In telecommunications, now popularly described as information technology, the experience was not of a new industry creating jobs, but of a new technology devouring jobs at an ever increasing rate, Mr Stanley said.

The congress passed a resolution stating that the concept of income which were too low for decent dignified lives was unacceptable. It emphasized that low pay was a particularly problem for women.

The resolution instructed the general council to compile a report on the relationship between the tax and social security system and options for ending the poverty trap, eliminating discrimination against women and unacceptably low incomes.

Members of the new general council

By David Felton

The TUC General Council which takes over tomorrow is as follows: Mr Moss Evans, Mr Walter Greenfield, Mr Brian Nicholson, Mr Ron Todd, Mr Larry Smith, Mr Paddy Mallon, Mr John Dally, Mr Bill Gill, Mr Morris Steele, National and Local Government Officers' Association; Mr Rodney Bickerton, Mr Dilwyn Davies National Union of Public Employees.

Mr Ken Gill, AUEW (Technical Administrative and Supervisory Section); Mr Roy Grantham, Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staffs; Mr Clive Jenkins, Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs; Mr Len Mills, Banking Insurance and Finance Union; Mr Ray Alderson, Civil and Public Services Association; Mr David Williams, Confederation of Health Service Employees; Mr Eric Hammond, Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union; Mr Fred Smithers, National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education; Mr Alan Tuffin, Union of Communications Workers; Mr Les Wood, Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians; Mr Bill Whitley, Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers; Mr Raymond Buckton, Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen; Mr Tony Christopher, Inland Revenue Staff Confederation.

Mr David Lambert, National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers; Mr Bert Lyons, Transport Salaried Staffs Association; Mr John Lyons, Engineers' and Managers' Association; Mr William McCall, Institution of Professional Civil Servants; Mr Charles McCarthy, National Society of Metal Mechanics; Mr John Morton, Musicians' Union; Mr William Sims, Iron and Steel Trades Confederation; Mr Alan Smith, National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers; Mr Bob Stevenson, National Union of the Footwear, Leather and Allied Trades; Mrs Olwyn Davies, Nape; Miss Ada Maddocks, National and Local Government Officers' Association.

Mrs Gina Morgan, AUEW; Mrs Muriel Turner, TGWU; Mrs Muriel Turner, ASTMS; Mrs Pat Turner, GMBATU.

Workers: Mr Les Wood, Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians; Mr Bill Whitley, Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers; Mr Raymond Buckton, Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen; Mr Tony Christopher, Inland Revenue Staff Confederation.

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Today's debates

The congress will resume its economic policy debate this morning, tackling the campaign against privatization. Motions on industry, local government and the press and information follow. International issues form the main afternoon business, including motions on nuclear disarmament and Nato.

orders" by courts on the reporting of judicial proceedings, he said, for which the blame must lie with legislators.

He also said that the present TUC-backed campaign for a statutory right of reply in newspapers would further fetter press freedom and, under the threat of prohibitive fines, erode the right of editors to publish what they wished within the law.

A right of reply already existed under the Defamation Act, 1952, under which reports lost the protection of qualified privilege if editors refused any statement or letter explaining or contradicting the report.

Mr Carter-Ruck urged all editors and journalists to resist further press-related legislation, whatever its alleged purpose.

'Use post code' campaign

A £5m campaign to persuade people to use post codes was launched by the Post Office yesterday.

The marks the completion of a £100m modernization programme next year to bring high-speed mail delivery to the whole of Britain, at a saving to the Post Office of up to £30m a year.

Leaflet plea on Labour 'racism'

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

black people at most decision-making levels of the Labour Party.

"Black sections will make sure that those who have the highest level of racism in society can at last play a direct role in its eradication - a role so long overdue."

"This is particularly so in the inner cities where Labour so often claim to be the best but do so little to deserve it."

"We say that by direct participation and representation through black sections, we as black people will at last be able to present our problems, thoughts and aspirations by ourselves, without recourse to middlemen breaking on our behalf."

Although 20 resolutions have been submitted for a possible black section debate at the Labour conference, at Blackpool, early next month, and the leaflet says: "Trade unions hold almost 90 per cent of the vote at the Labour Party conference and we ask you to use your votes positively to help us win the black sections debate."

Mr Neil Kimock, Labour leader, Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader, and Mr Gerald Kaufman, home affairs spokesman, have opposed the creation of black sections on the grounds that they would create a "ghetto" within the party.

Mr Joe Beane, of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, seconded the motion and said job security in teaching was a myth. The sacrifices of today would turn into the sacrifices of tomorrow. It would be a human sacrifice of children, youth, the entire community, on the altar of public spending priorities. The Government was looking at ways of broadening the secondary school curriculum instead of abandoning subjects such as music, poetry and real life skills.

Mr Len Mills, General Secretary of the Banking Insurance and Finance Union, introducing the motion, said they needed to look at the quality of education in relation to the needs of the economy and society.

Mr Gordon Green, of the National Union of Teachers, said that it was the considered view of many people who were programing for next year in large urban areas that only one school leaver in six or seven would be guaranteed full employment.

"It is a national disgrace. We are betraying a whole generation of young people," he said.

Mr Green said that they should be looking at ways of broadening the secondary school curriculum instead of abandoning subjects such as music, poetry and real life skills.

Import ban call

A composite motion calling for import controls was carried by a large majority on a show of hands. It was moved by Mr Paul Callaghan, of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Trades Union.

Mr Brian Orrell, Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association, said the association was concerned about people who had little or no say in how long they spent out of Britain.

Mr Tony McGee, of the National Union of Seamen, moving it, said that the Government was torn between taxing income at the same rate or taxing only spending. If it continued to switch from income to spending, most people would be worse off.

The 25 per cent relief on overseas earnings had been compensation for the extra expenditure incurred by people such as pensioners, lorry drivers and airline workers, but it had been absorbed by businessmen.

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Immos voted vote

Delegates voted unanimously in favour of a resolution condemning the Government's sale of its majority stake in Immos, the computer chip company, and instructing the TUC to ensure that Britain retained and developed its information technology capability.

Mr Peter Griffiths, of the National Union of Teachers, moving his union's motion, spoke of the continuing and depressing downward spiral of education provision in Britain. There had been serious attacks on dedicated teachers during the current pay negotiations which, for the time being only, had denied teachers a few sheep on a collection of rocks in the south Atlantic.

Mr Paddy Mallon, Association of University Teachers, said the South of England always won in taking up places in higher education. Mature students waiting a second chance were being pushed out by lack of places. The Government was saying that if more people were to become university entrants, standards would be reduced. This was elitism.

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'Outlaw union gags on papers'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Legislation to prevent trade unions disrupting or halting newspaper production over the inclusion of articles or advertisements to which the unions take exception was called for by a leading newspaper lawyer.

Such acts of "sabotage" by trade unions posed a threat to press freedom, Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, a libel lawyer, said.

The only way to stop the "inexcusable behaviour" of some of the printing unions would be to make it an offence to refuse to publish or print any material which was not against the law, he said.

That would also give the editor a right of dismissal for such interference with the publication of his newspaper, Mr Carter-Ruck said.

Stubble-burners reported

Several Lincolnshire farmers have been reported for alleged breaches of stubble-burning by-laws after a day of serious field fires, it was disclosed yesterday.

On Monday winds fanned stubble fires throughout the county causing more than a dozen fires to get out of hand, destroying 74 acres of standing crops and more than five miles of hedges and banksides. Families were evacuated at Reepham, near Lincoln.

Mr Colin Brereton, the county's deputy fire-protection officer, said yesterday: "Even fires which were lit in accordance with the stubble-burning code got out of hand, but a number of others have been reported to the district councils, who decide whether to take action under local by-laws."

Baby's inquest adjourned

The inquest into the death of Tyrone Henry, aged 21 months, was opened and adjourned until December 14 at Southwark Crown Court yesterday. The child of Evelyn House, Bonham House, Bonham Road, Brixton, South London, died of bronchial pneumonia and head injuries, Dr Ian West, a pathologist said.

Det Chief Inspector Michael Shorter said that her father, Andrew Neil, aged 20, an unemployed electrician from Brixton, has been charged with her murder.

Three Iranians refused bail

Three Iranian students held in Durham jail, who say they face execution after being recommended for deportation for shoplifting by Teesside magistrates, were refused bail yesterday by a judge. Their appeals against the sentences will be heard next week at Teesside Crown Court.

Simin Miri, aged 21, Sima Haghasan and Lida Shamloo, both aged 24, who lived together in Crescent Road, Middlesbrough, are all activists against the Khomeini regime. Miss Haghasan was granted political asylum in Britain last year.

Prep schools' conference

next year, it was disclosed at yesterday's annual conference of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, being held at Trinity College, Cambridge.

For a trial period of three years, preparatory schools will be free to choose whether their pupils will sit the new paper or continue with the old papers.

Mr John Clark, chairman of the association and headmaster of the Malis School, Cross Hills, Keighley, North Yorkshire, said he expected take-up to be slow at first, but hoped that the three-year trial would be enough to persuade most heads to ease the examination pressure on young teenagers.

In his chairman's address yesterday, Mr Clark said the new paper would encourage better teaching and a broader curriculum in independent schools. Teachers would be less able to "topic spot", that is, attempt to predict which question would come up in the common entrance examination.

He thought that some preparatory school teachers were guilty of "common entrance mania", and of teaching subjects barely relevant to modern needs. "I suggest that none of us should worship that great god, common entrance", he added.

Public school head teachers have been wary of the move, fearing that children's learning would be watered down, but Mr Clark said they were now convinced that it would help to extend breadth of independent education.

Update image to survive, schools told

Although he thought that automatically ruled schools were almost a thing of the past, preparatory schools had a long way to go before their spartan image was forgotten.

Iron bedsteads should be thrown out to turn dormitory into bedrooms and head teachers should help to lay carpets over bare boards.

Preparatory schools should also fill up to 10 per cent of their places with handicapped and slow-learning children and foster exchanges with state schools.

Preparatory schools achieved a pupil population of 100,000 for the first time, although pupil numbers are falling nationally. However, head teachers should not be complacent, Mr Clark said, that £2,000 a year was saved on laundry bills.

Trial for new common entrance paper

From Colin Hughes Cambridge

Pupils competing to enter public schools will have a less strenuous option when sitting the common entrance examination.

Preparatory school head teachers have reached agreement with their opposite numbers in the independent and public schools over amalgamating three of the common entrance papers so that the whole examination lasts three days instead of the present four.

The new general paper will take in the previous geography, history, and scripture papers. It will be launched in November next year, it was disclosed at yesterday's annual conference of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, being held at Trinity College, Cambridge.

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Public school head teachers have been wary of the move, fearing that children's learning would be watered down, but Mr Clark said they were now convinced that it would help to extend breadth of independent education.

Harsh and regimented preparatory schools told

Harsh and regimented preparatory schools should relax their rules and spruce up their surroundings to help them to stay in business, headmasters were told yesterday.

Mr John Clark, chairman of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, which has 550 members, told its annual conference that head teachers should help with do-it-yourself work to update their schools' images.

Fees, which are rising more quickly than inflation, could be kept down by hiring a handyman to do routine repairs and decorating, and by taking on their own laundry and catering rather than contracting out. At his own school, Malis, in North Yorkshire, Mr Clark said that £2,000 a year was saved on laundry bills.

Report on controls

Report on controls

Chile police accused of brutality after death of French priest

From Our Correspondent Santiago

Opponents of the military regime in Chile yesterday tried to force the country after a French priest and two other people including a 14-year-old boy, died during the first of two days of protest against the Government.

Father, Pierre Leclerc, aged 44, was found dead with two bullets in the neck in his Santiago shanty town house. He was reading the Bible when he was shot. Another French priest who shared the house with him was quoted as saying that the bullets came from police who ran down the street firing bursts from machine guns.

"It is a message from God to stop the violence and to listen to the people who are only asking for work and justice. It is a message from God so there is no more hate," Archbishop Francisco Fresno said, adding that the Roman Catholic Church was in mourning.

The two days of protest called by the opposition parties - Democratic Alliance, Socialist Block and Popular Democratic Movement - drew a disappointing response, but were punctuated by excessive police violence.

On Tuesday morning, about 300 protesters gathered in the Plaza de Armas in the centre of Santiago and tried to sing the Chilean national anthem. Police, using truncheons, water cannon and dogs, broke up the demonstration and arrested more than 100 people, including the union leader, Señor Rodolfo Seguel, who was wounded. The president of the International Christian Democracy, Señor Andrés Zaldívar, was also arrested but freed soon after.

He told *The Times*: "Chile is a country occupied by force. You can't express your ideas without being repressed. I was witness to the Government's violence which, instead of protecting the population, attacked it."

"The protest day is an attempt by the people of Chile



Man in the middle: Señor Zaldívar, one of the main opposition leaders, is arrested in Santiago after being sprayed by water cannon.

Paris protests to Pinochet over killing

France has ordered its ambassador to Chile to protest at the killing of the French priest (see report from Paris).

The Government spokesman M. Roland Dumas said: "The French Government condemns the brutal repression of demonstrators that express the Chilean people's desire to see democracy restored. France paid homage to Father Jarlan. The Chilean Government has ordered an inquiry to express their desire to return to democracy, and once again the Government has acted with repression, brutally attacking

the public. The three deaths, 100 wounded and 250 arrested show the Government is only staying in by force."

University students built barricades on their campuses and threw stones at police, and in working-class areas residents also erected barricades, burnt tyres and set four buses on fire. The Government prevented the two main radio stations from broadcasting normal news programmes, allowing only the official line to be put.

A 35-year-old rehabilitated drug addict was fatally wounded in the back while manning a barricade in the same shanty area where the priest died. In a similar incident at another barricade, a 14-year-old boy was shot dead.

The biggest impact on the second day of the protest was a work stoppage by lorry drivers in Santiago. They were joined by some drivers in other cities.

More than 100 demonstrators have died since May, 1983, in protests against President Pinochet's rule. The political effects of the latest unrest are unclear. Last year the President responded to the first big demonstrations by letting thousands of exiles come home, easing press censorship and permitting opposition parties to operate or the first time in a decade.

He has recently, however, returned to repressive measures and sounded more confident about his plans to stay in power until 1989.

Theatre of hooligans taps hidden talents

From Our Own Correspondent Moscow

An amateur theatre using the hidden talents of drunks, hooligans and layabouts, is proving a success with Moscow audiences after initial disasters in which both actors and theatregoers became involved in drunken brawls.

The theatre, in a cramped basement flat in the run down working-class south-west of Moscow, is run by Valery Belakovich, a 34-year-old failed actor.

Seeing that many young people in the district wasted their evenings in bars and wine shops, Mr Belakovich decided to make life in the dismal housing blocks more attractive. His first production, a play based on an old musical comedy called *Trouble in a Tender Heart*, collapsed when customers from the wine shop upstairs poured into the basement to watch their mates tread the boards. Amid shouting and jeering an affair broke out and Mr Belakovich was punched on the nose.

The leading actor in Bulgakov's *Moliers*, a former ringleader of the local street gangs, has even been offered the title role in a joint Soviet-Spanish production of *Don Quixote*. The theatre is besieged by requests for tickets from official organizations.

The theatre's rise comes as the Soviet press in deploring the state of modern theatre and depicting a crisis in Socialist-Realist drama. Sovietkapa Kultura said most plays published in the last year were second-rate, and the "industrial drama", with its stock "positive hero" fulfilling norms laid down by the party, is sinking under the weight of ideological clichés.

Nuclear issue dominates campaign Arms pact is Mondale aim

From Nicholas Ashford, Salt Lake City

Mr Walter Mondale, the Democratic presidential candidate, yesterday announced that, if elected in November, he would - on his first day as President - call on the Soviet Union to hold arms talks in Geneva within six months.

At these talks he would urge Moscow to agree to a temporary halt to the testing of all nuclear and space weapons to enable the two superpowers to embark on full-scale negotiations aimed at achieving a nuclear arms freeze. This would be followed by a reduction of their nuclear arsenals.

His speech was an attempt to capture the high ground in the debate over nuclear weapons which is emerging as one of the main issues of the election.

In his hard-hitting speech before the sixty-sixth annual convention of the American Legion, Mr Mondale emphasized that "arms control is not weakness." Noting that every President from Kennedy to Carter had negotiated arms control agreements with the Soviet Union, he sharply criticized President Reagan for being the first President "since the bomb went off never to have negotiated arms control". He had not even met his Soviet counterpart.

"He has failed this crucial test of presidential leadership," Mr Mondale declared. "He has conducted an arms race on Earth, and now he wants to extend it into the heavens. He even makes jokes about nuclear war. But nuclear war is not funny."

He would, however, go ahead with what he described as mutual and verifiable freeze on the nuclear arms race, and reduce arsenals of nuclear war. He would insist, he said, that all agreements were verifiable. "We are determined never to lose an arms race," he told the legionnaires. "But we're also smart enough to know that, in the nuclear world, no one can win an arms race."

Mr Mondale spelt out in some detail how he would go about negotiating arms reductions with the Soviet Union.

First, he would call on Moscow to accept mutual, verifiable restraints, among them a pause in the testing of all nuclear weapons, and in the testing and deployment of all space weapons.

He would then use this pause in order to challenge the Soviet leaders to return to the bargaining table and negotiate a lasting, effective agreement to put a

survivable nuclear systems, such as the Trident 2 submarine-launched missile, the Midetman mobile ICBM, and the Stealth strategic bomber.

In an attempt to counter Republican allegations that he was "soft" on defence, Mr Mondale emphasized that he was committed to building a "strong defence aimed at deterring aggression and reducing the risk of nuclear war".

He used strong terms to castigate the Soviet Union, terms which could have almost been taken from President Reagan's lexicon of anti-Soviet rhetoric.

The Soviet leaders were "cynical, ruthless and dangerous. They represent their citizens... in the Middle East they sabotage peace. From Asia to Africa to Latin America, they suppress human rights and export instability."

Although most of his speech dealt with defence issues, Mr Mondale also used his appearance before a largely conservative audience to show that he and his party were as patriotic and as true-blooded Americans as his opponents.

On Tuesday, President Reagan, appearing before the same gathering, had posed as the champion of the "new patriotism". The legionnaires clearly preferred the optimistic, uncomplicated speech which President Reagan had delivered the previous day. But they listened to Mr Mondale with respectful attention and even applauded on occasions.

Odinga's comeback attempt scuppered

Nairobi (AFP) - The Kenyan authorities have squashed an apparent attempt at a public comeback by the former Vice-President, Mr Odinga.

Mr Odinga, aged 73, launched the Ramogi Development Trust last weekend, describing it as a country-wide body aimed at "improving the quality of life

of Kenyans," with himself as its promoter.

He said it would be a public, non-profit making organization run on commercial lines, to fund the establishment of educational bodies and colleges. But the announcement by Mr Odinga, who was released from a period of house arrest earlier

this year, led to claims that the organization was tribal. Mr Odinga, who belongs to the Luo tribe, Kenya's second largest after the Kikuyu, denied this. The registrar of companies revealed on Monday that the Ramogi Development Trust, which was registered in May, had been struck off the register.

A Soviet-style tourist problem

'Wild ones' plague Yalta

From Richard Owen Yalta

Anton Chekhov built himself a villa here. So did Nicholas II, and Soviet leaders come here to rest from the cares of the Kremlin.

It is not hard to see why. Yalta, set on a superb stretch of Black Sea coast, offers sun, bathing and scenery comparable with the Italian or French Riviera. The Russians rather earnestly refer to Yalta's climatic properties and restorative powers, but we would simply say it is a first class resort.

There is no topless sunbathing, and the usual fare of cabbage pies and chicken Kiev reminds you that you are still in the Soviet Union. But there are comparatively few propaganda slogans, and the atmosphere is relaxed.

"The Soviet Union is the bulwark of peace," seems a little absurd on a giant placard at the entrance to the Hotel Yalta, as if it had been placed by mistake on a cornice near Nice. The same is true of the portrait of Lenin next to the Beach Restaurant where Yalta's good-time girls gather in the warm, fragrant evenings in search of hard currency tourists and entry to the magic world of foreign tourism.

The Hotel Yalta is the town's showpiece. Completed five years ago with Yugoslav help, it has 1,500 unusually clean and well-appointed rooms, a higher standard of service than normally found in Russia, and a lift straight down to the beach. On the Adriatic this might not seem remarkable but on the Black Sea it is a welcome surprise.



THE SOVIET SUN BELT

holiday places which were previously the preserve of the aristocracy, the merchant class and the intelligentsia, and on the whole it works very well. Flights are also cheap, and Russians feel that, despite the queues, congestion and shortages, they benefit from Soviet rule.

What worries the authorities on the other hand, is the astonishing rise in the numbers of "wild" tourists, known in Russian as *dikari*, who cast aside the collective and just turn up on the Black Sea, often finding rooms in private flats.

Down at the Yalta quayside, where holidaymakers stroll and enjoy a lively fun fair while the great steamers dock alongside, an old man taking ferry tickets grabbed me by the arm and fixed me with his marine's eye. He said he was a retired naval officer, and complained that Yalta was becoming clogged up with wild tourists. "We haven't the facilities," he said. "Yalta budgets for two million visitors a year, but we're getting nearly three million."

The *Literary Gazette* recently reported that at the high season there are twice as many people in the Crimean resorts as they can cope with. Most of the *dikari*, it said, are in their teens and twenties, young Russians impatient with the restrictions of the pioneer camp or the house of rest. The paper suggested, without much hope that it would work, that police in the Crimea should be stationed at Black Sea resorts in a mass operation to keep the "wild ones" out.

Muzorewa stays away from party and press

Harare-Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe who was released on Tuesday after 10 months in detention, stayed well out of politics yesterday (Jan Raath writes). A scheduled press conference did not take place.

The bishop spent the day with fellow members of the American-based United Methodist Church, being briefed on events during his absence. He did not call at the headquarters of his party, the UANC.

Socialist pledge

Nairobi - Representatives of West European parties at the Socialist International conference at Aarhus in northern Tanzania agreed yesterday to mobilize more international economic and political pressure against South Africa for Namibian independence and an end to apartheid (Charles Harrison writes).

Airship patrol

The British-built *Shimane* airship will serve as an airbase, observation post today as part of Tokyo's extraordinary military precautions for the visit of President Chun of South Korea (David Watts writes).

Mrs Gandhi looks victor in Rama Rao battle

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Mr. N. T. Rama Rao, the former Chief Minister of the south Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, greeted the decision to allow him to challenge his successor in the state legislative assembly with dignified relief.

He said the announcement that the assembly had been summoned to a vote on the issue next Tuesday was "a ray of hope for democracy and constitutional norms in this country". But it seems highly unlikely he will be able to turn out. Mr. Nandendra Bhaskara Rao, the new Chief Minister.

Though nothing is certain in Indian politics, it would seem the test of strength would not have been allowed if there was any real chance of Mr. Rama Rao winning by it.

Mr. Bhaskara Rao has claimed the support of 163 legislators in the 295-member assembly. So has Mr. Rama Rao. The past three weeks have seen something of a tug of war, with each side struggling for the support of 15 to 20 members of the *Telega Desam* party.

Mr. Rama Rao has tried to protect his flock to assembly members from the enticements of money and jobs that would no doubt be dangled before them by sequestering

them in the neighbouring, friendly state of Karnataka.

Tucked away in a resort hotel in Mysore, under the watchful eyes of two of Mr. Rama Rao's sons-in-law, 158 members greeted the news that their holiday would end soon with a good deal less than dignified relief. They jumped in the air and shouted like schoolboys, while some hugged each other, and others made catcalls and gestures at one of the sons-in-law.

If Mr. Bhaskara Rao does lose, it is being suggested here that President's Rule would be a more likely outcome than a return to power by a vengeful Mr. Rama Rao. In that eventuality, the reins of power would still be where Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, has always wanted them - in her hands.

Meanwhile, 24 districts of Hyderabad, the state capital, went under curfew again yesterday after bitter fighting between Hindus and Muslims in which 25 people were hurt.

The fighting, sparked by clashing religious festivals, began when Muslims attacked a Hindu temple and set fire to buildings near by.

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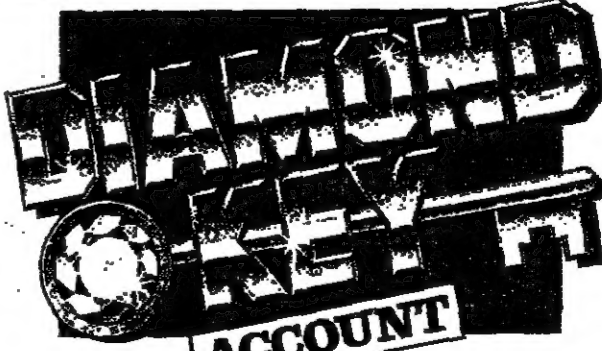
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Bomb found in Supreme Court

Violence flares again as explosions interrupt Transvaal power supply

From Michael Hornby, Johannesburg

A Soviet-made limpet mine was found on the seventh floor of the Rand Supreme Court yesterday only a few hours after a series of explosions had deprived much of north-western Transvaal of electricity.

The bombs added to the atmosphere of unrest and tension which has centred for the past few days on Sharpeville and other black townships along the Vaal river about 40 miles south of Johannesburg.

Scattered arson, looting and stone-throwing continued in the townships, and police fired rubber bullets and tear gas canisters to disperse rioters. Violence also flared anew in the east Rand township of Tembisa, where a primary school was looted and a bear hall set alight.

In a situation which could have become ugly, several thousand Sharpeville blacks confronted police, who were in armoured vehicles, and demanded negotiations with white

government officials over rent increases - the immediate cause of this week's violence.

Officials from the Orange-Vaal Development Board, the white body with ultimate responsibility for the black townships in the region, were eventually summoned and met a small delegation of Sharpeville residents, led by an Anglican priest.

Talks continued for most of the day and ended without agreement. Mr Mongezi Radebe, a member of the Sharpeville delegation, said he and his colleagues had told the white officials that they would refuse to pay more than 30 rand (£14) a month for rent, water and electricity.

This is about half what rents are now paying. Mr Radebe said officials were also told that the boycott of schools and places of work would continue until a satisfactory

reply was given. "They are offering nothing," he said.

About 93,000 children are boycotting classes in Sharpeville and four other townships - Sebokeng, Evaton, Boipatong and Bophelong - where rioting and clashes with the police claimed at least 29 lives on Monday. A further 12,000 pupils are playing truant in the Johannesburg - Pretoria area.

The bomb in the supreme court was found just after 9am by a security guard who alerted police. It was detonated on the lawn in front of the building while thousands of people watched at a safe distance behind a police cordon.

No organization has claimed responsibility, but the bombs are similar to many used by the banned African National Congress, the main black resistance movement. It could have been timed to coincide with the election of Mr P. W. Botha as South Africa's new President.

Power from the Electricity Supply Commission's substation near Rustenburg in the north-western Transvaal, damaged by explosions early yesterday morning, is not expected to be fully restored until later today. Emergency supplies had to be used to bring hundreds of miners to the surface from their early-morning shift in the area's platinum mines.

There have been three other explosions in central Johannesburg in the past two weeks, in which nine people were injured.

Botha elected President

South Africa's former Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, was yesterday unanimously elected to the new post of President by an Electoral College consisting of 50 white MPs, 25 mixed-race Coloured MPs and 13 Indian MPs (Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes).

The members of the College were chosen by majority vote from the white, Coloured and Indian houses of the new tricameral Parliament, which is

the central feature of the revised constitution in force since midnight last Sunday. As President, he will act both as head of state and retain the executive authority previously vested in the Prime Minister under the old Westminster-type parliamentary system which now fades into history.

Mr Botha will remain President-elect until September 14, when he will be formally sworn into office.

Minister survives Beirut death blast

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

If it had happened to anyone else, the Lebanese would not have been surprised. But for would-be assassins to attack Dr Selim el-Hoss on the very feast of Eid, was a shock even in Beirut.

Dr el-Hoss was one of those government ministers - a liberal Sunni Muslim with a respectable academic background and a genuine compassion for the poor - who should have had some kind of immunity from physical assault. The car bomb that exploded so bloodily on the cliffs at Raouche yesterday morning proved everyone wrong.

The Minister of Education and Labour had been driving in his limousine to the home of Sheikh Hassan Khaled, the country's Sunni Muslim religious leader, when the explosives, apparently set off by radio in a green Renault car, blasted across the main sea front road amid a cluster of fish restaurants at the very moment Dr el-Hoss passed.

One of his gendarmes motorcycle escorts was immediately beheaded, his body hurled 25 feet by the explosion. Three

other people, including another police guard and a middle-aged woman pedestrian, were killed instantly.

Amid the litter of blood, corpses, petrol and broken glass, Dr el-Hoss was pulled from his car and driven to the American University hospital, where he was treated for cuts and shock.

"I am perfectly well," he told radio reporters afterwards. "This is not the first crime in the Lebanese crisis, but I hope it will be the last," - an earnest enough prayer that is highly unlikely to be granted.

From the position of the car bomb, it looked as if the potential assassins were intent on murdering not just Dr el-Hoss but Sheikh Khaled and Shaikh Muhammad Mehdi Shamseddin, the Shia Muslim spiritual leader as well.

Dr el-Hoss was to have escorted both of them to the Imam Ali mosque for dawn prayers to mark the Eid feast.

The feast celebrates Abraham's sacrifice, and it would be difficult to imagine a more emotive time upon which to kill Lebanon's principal Muslim leaders. No organisation claimed responsibility.

Boycott fine for UK deal

By Richard Dowden

An American company has been fined under United States anti-boycott laws because its British subsidiary allegedly complied with the Arab boycott of Israel.

Celotex Corporation, of Tampa, Florida, was fined \$7,500 (£5,800) by the Commerce Department because of Celotex UK's alleged compliance with boycott rules.

Mr James Kynes, executive vice-president of Celotex Corp, said that, in a £4,500 deal with Libya over some ceiling tiles, the Libyans added to an invoice the condition that the company should not do business with Israel. This went unnoticed at the time, but the company later reported it to the Commerce

Department, without admitting guilt.

WASHINGTON - Digital Equipment Corporation, a major US computer company, has been fined \$1.5m (£1.15m) over dealings between its West German subsidiary and a businessman alleged to have smuggled high-technology equipment to the Soviet Union.

In what the Commerce Department said was the biggest penalty imposed under the Export Administration Act.

It said Mr Richard Mueller, who runs a company called Deutsche Integrated Time, had been denied US export privileges for 20 years after he was found to have illegally re-exported products of US origin

Labour and Likud share out the jobs

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Israeli coalition negotiators yesterday finally got down to discussing who gets which post in the proposed government of national unity and how some of the smaller parties can be integrated into the administration.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister designate, and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the outgoing Prime Minister, conferred in Jerusalem and also met separately with delegations from smaller parties. Eight of the 15 parties which won seats in the recent Knesset elections have already agreed to back a broad coalition, assuring it of 92 of the 120 votes.

According to proposals discussed yesterday, the Cabinet would comprise between 20 and 24 ministers, but there would be an inner Cabinet of six or eight. The two big parties would have parity in seats.

Likud accepted Labour's condition that Mr Peres should lead the Government for two years and one month and then resign with a recommendation to the President and the Knesset that Mr Shamir be elected for the remainder of Parliament's four-year tenure. Until then Mr Shamir would be Deputy Prime Minister under Mr Peres and Foreign Minister, offices that would go to Mr Peres in the 1986 switch.

Likud also withdrew its demand that the defence portfolio also be rotated.

Likud would get the Treasury and justice portfolios and Labour would get education, probably for former President Yitzhak Navon.

The controversy over the Jewish settlements in the proposed government programme was settled by a formula by which the new government would recognize the validity of decisions by the outgoing government concerning settlements in occupied territories, but the timing and extent of development shall be decided by the Cabinet.

Voyage of Discovery ends in triumph

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The space shuttle Discovery, third orbiter in the US fleet, made a beautiful landing at dawn yesterday after a near-perfect six-day maiden flight.

With its crew of six, it glided to touchdown at Edwards Air Force Base, California. Discovery's triumphant return after launching three commercial communications satellites put NASA back in the space freighter delivery business.

The orbiter's maiden flight, twelfth in the shuttle programme, was even less troublesome than the inaugural missions of its predecessors, Columbia and Challenger.

The only problem in space was the formation of a mysterious ice chunk which worried mission control in Houston until it was knocked off the left side of the shuttle on Wednesday.

In its final hours in orbit, astronauts stopped a leak in an

oxygen storage tank by closing it and switching to a back-up. The 162-ton ship flew about 2.5 million miles - 96 times round the earth.

The crew, including Judy Resnik, the second American woman in space, accomplished all their main tasks, including delivery of the three satellites, operation of a giant solar sail and processing of a secret mission.

"If you discount the ice, everything else has been

absolutely perfect", Mr John Cox, the flight director, said. The separate deployment of the satellites on the first three days in space was a welcome relief to NASA officials, and restored the confidence of commercial users.

The last time satellites were ejected from a shuttle, in February, they were "lost" when identical booster rocket failures put them in erratic orbits rendering them useless. The flawless erection and

testing of the 10-storey solar sail in the shuttle's payload bay was a triumph for the concept which will probably be used to provide electricity for the first permanent space station.

MOSCOW - Three Cosmos satellites were launched yesterday by a single rocket, said. The mission is to "perfect the elements and instruments of the space navigation system for spotting, Soviet civilian planes and merchant ships and fishing vessels" (AFP reports).



In person: President Chernenko at the Kremlin yesterday presenting the Order of Lenin, the highest civilian Soviet award, to the cosmonaut Miss Svetlana Savitskaya, the first woman to walk in space.

Bonn puts a brave face on Honecker's postponed visit

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The West German cabinet yesterday discussed the decision by Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, to call off his visit here in September and decided to put a brave face on what has been a bitter blow to the Kohl Government's hopes of further improvements in relations between the two Germanies.

A government spokesman said Chancellor Helmut Kohl still expected relations to develop, and government sources made it clear they saw a Soviet veto as the real reason for the visit's postponement.

The spokesman said the East German leader would be accorded all proper ceremony in any future visit and would also be able to visit Bonn, which had not been planned for the present visit because of the difficulties it set in suggesting a return Kohl

visit to East Berlin, not recognized by the allies as a capital.

The tone of the Government's expressions of regret has been deliberately restrained, in the hope that Herr Honecker will not come under further pressure to curb contacts with Bonn.

But there has been sharp criticism by the press and the Opposition of the Government's handling of the preparations and of statements by leading Christian Democrats which were used as a pretext for calling off the visit.

Much criticism has been directed against Herr Alfred Dreger, the CDU floor leader, whose remark that West Germany did not depend on Herr Honecker doing the honour of a visit was cited by the East German news agency as evidence of "unseemly controversy" in the federal republic.

Herr Dreger himself said he was not surprised at the cancellation, as the visit did not fit in with Moscow's plans. Herr Volker Rühe the CDU deputy floor leader, said pinning the blame on Herr Dreger was a mere pretext.

The Bundestag is to debate the Honecker visit on Monday, and the Greens have called on Chancellor Kohl for an explanation of what happened.

Few newspapers expressed surprise at the East German decision, and several suggested it came as a relief to both sides after the mounting controversy.

A third attempt to reschedule the visit would have to be better prepared, the influential Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said.

Escaper hurt by scatter gun

Munich (Reuters) - An East German man dragged himself over the barbed-wire border fence into West Germany during the night after being seriously hurt by East Germany's frontier scatter guns, Bavarian border police said yesterday.

The unnamed escaper, aged 26, was riddled from head to foot with metal fragments from two automatic scatter-guns which fired when he touched their trip-wires in the dark. A companion who was not hit

lacerated his legs as he scaled the 9ft high fence, but managed to summon help from a nearby house.

Both escapers were taken to hospital and neither man's life was in danger, police said.

East Germany, keeping a promise made to Bonn in return for government-backed financial credits, has been dismantling the scatter guns that up till recently lined long stretches of the heavily guarded frontier.

In Bonn, the West German Government said it was staggered that once again people had been injured by scatter guns.

A third attempt to reschedule the visit would have to be better prepared, the influential Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung said.

Observers here say that while the East German leader felt obliged to give up his cherished wish to visit the federal republic because it had become a symbol of disagreement with Moscow, he is unlikely to drop his policies of seeking improvements in relations with Bonn.

He pointedly emphasized the need for dialogue only days before the decision not to go to the West, and the statement of the postponement by the East German mission here on Tuesday did not contain any attack on Bonn's policies.

East Germany cannot afford to jeopardize its relations with West Germany, not only because of the large loans it has received in the past year, but with the bulk of its trade.

The East Germans know they will not get any help from the Russians to keep up their high growth rate.

Mr Leonid Kostandov (above) a Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, died suddenly of a heart attack yesterday in East Germany, where he was visiting the Leipzig international trade fair, the official ADN news agency said (Reuters reports).

Mr Kostandov, aged 69, played a prominent role in a Warsaw Pact debate over East Germany's economic relations with Bonn this month, giving a lengthy interview to ADN warning against economic dependence on the West.

TOLEDO - Herr Honecker was quoted as telling Mr Yoshida Sakurazuchi, the former Japanese Foreign Minister, at a meeting in Berlin on Tuesday that he hoped to visit West Germany some day, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

Britain's refusal to allow a supplementary budget for this year has already prompted the European Parliament to freeze payment of its long-promised £457m fund for 1983. Some diplomats in Brussels now fear that, unless Britain agrees to release extra money soon, the entire basis of the agreement for a long-term solution to the budget problem, agreed during the Fontainebleau summit in June, could come unravelling.

INSBRUCK (Reuters) - A couple making love on the Paris-to-Venice Orient Express delayed the train for 40 minutes here yesterday when the woman's foot jammed the emergency brake, railway officials said.

New papal warning on birth control

Rome (AP) - The Pope gave a warning yesterday that sometimes married Roman Catholic couples must not even use the Church-approved natural family planning method to limit the size of their families.

Giving the edge of a dozen planned lectures aimed at reinforcing the Church's ban on artificial birth control, he said: "The use of infertile periods in married life can become the source of abuses, if the couples seek in such a way to avoid without just reasons procreation, lowering procreation below the socially correct level of births for their family."

Former envoy accused

Harare - Mr Robert Zwanzig, Zimbabwe's former High Commissioner to London, has appeared in court here accused of selling a car illegally (Jan Raath reports).

Now a Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Information, he was recalled to Harare last year after a scandal in which he spent £580,000 on an official residence in London, without obtaining approval. Mr Zwanzig has not been asked to plead and is free on bail.

Plane downed in error

Canberra (Reuters) - The Australian Navy shot down a \$41m aircraft instead of the target it was towing, according to the Government Auditor-General's report sent to Parliament.

The Navy faced a shortage of suitable targets for testing missiles, the report said, and destruction of the pilotless aircraft earlier this year by warships had worsened the problem.

Holidays shooting

Chaumont, France (AFP) - Guy Amiot, aged 29, and his brother Robert, aged 33, were charged yesterday with allegedly shooting and injuring Mr Victor Greenway and his wife, from Warwick, as they sat in their car on the edge of a wood at Judmont near here.

Cull halted

Sydney (Reuters) - Australian authorities yesterday suspended the commercial culling of kangaroos over a large area of New South Wales for 12 months but angry conservationists said the shootings should stop immediately in all states.

Rights trial

Moscow (Reuters) - The dissident mathematician, Mr Yuri Shkharovitch, went on trial yesterday for his alleged involvement in publishing a human rights journal.

Zurich quake

Zurich (AFP) - An earthquake rocked Zurich and the surrounding countryside yesterday. It measured four on the nine-point Richter scale.

Lovers' brake

INSBRUCK (Reuters) - A couple making love on the Paris-to-Venice Orient Express delayed the train for 40 minutes here yesterday when the woman's foot jammed the emergency brake, railway officials said.

Non-stop flights to Riyadh leave London at 15.30 four days a week



UN pressure fails to revive Anglo-Argentine negotiations

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The British Government has virtually abandoned all hope of an early resumption of Anglo-Argentine negotiations, which broke up as soon as they began two months ago.

This is despite the official application of pressure on Britain to start discussing the issue of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, which is expected at the UN General Assembly later this month.

There are no plans for Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, to meet Señor Dante Caputo, his Argentine counterpart, during the General Assembly in New York, and no immediate prospects of any other contacts between the two sides, according to sources.

Government in Buenos Aires have ruled out all prospects of an early return to the negotiating table.

The formula agreed after months of patient haggling was that the Argentines would raise the question of sovereignty at the Berne talks, and that the British delegation would refuse to discuss it. Then they came to other, less intractable issues.

In the pre-talks haggling, Britain refused to say that it was prepared to negotiate over sovereignty "yet", while the Argentines could not accept a statement of their initiative. So they settled for a compromise which meant, in effect, that the British delegation said it was not disposed to discuss the question.

It is believed that President Alfonsín kept all news of the forthcoming meeting out of the press because he thought it safer to present his electorate with a *fait accompli*. But he realized too late that he had moved too fast for right-wingers in Argentina, especially after a demonstration against three visiting British MPs, and even tried to back out at the eleventh hour.

The end, when it came, was therefore not a complete surprise to British officials who, none the less, still accuse the Buenos Aires Government of "wobbling" on the deal.

The Whitehall view is that the ball is in the Argentine court, given that the British Government can ride out any pressure over the Falklands - at least in the foreseeable future. A runway should also be operational on the new Falklands airport next spring, leading to a reduction in the size and costs of the military garrison.



President Alfonsín: Moved too soon too fast.

Philippines typhoon toll tops 500

From Keith Dalton, Manila

More than a million Filipinos lost their homes or means of livelihood in the past six days after the tropical storm followed by a devastating typhoon that hit the country, government officials said yesterday.

The combined death toll, already more than 500, is steadily increasing as communication lines are restored in the central and southern Philippines, hardest hit by "Typhoon Ike" at the weekend.

It struck just four days after the tropical storm "Jane" flooded huge areas of southern Philippines, killing 53 people and leaving tens of thousands homeless.

"Almost the entire archipelago has suffered. We have never before experienced such widespread destruction," an official of the Office of Civil Defence said.

Typhoon Ike, with winds exceeding 137 mph, caused giant waves which inundated coastal towns, torrential rain flooded huge areas and powerful winds ripped apart dozens of towns and cities. Crops, communication links and power lines have been destroyed.

Sudano del Norte, on the north-eastern tip of Mindanao Island, was the worst hit of the 39 affected provinces. While more than 300 people are now known to have died, Mr Salvador Serrig, the deputy governor, believes 1,000 died in the provincial capital alone. The city has run out of coffins and people are being buried in mass graves.

Some 200 residents of the town of Mainit were reported to have drowned when a lake burst its banks.

As the clearing up continues, cholera and typhoid vaccines have been flown to the devastated areas.

Report rules out altering controls on diplomats

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

No attempt should be made to change the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, according to a report by a former British diplomat published today. It would do more harm than good, he says.

Mr Frank Breckley, former British Ambassador to Norway and Poland, says that instead Britain and other countries should apply more vigorously their existing controls over foreign diplomats and their missions.

A debate has raged over how far the rules on diplomatic immunity should be altered, ever since WPC Yvonne Fletcher was shot dead from inside the Libyan Embassy's Bureau in London last April.

An attempt to stipulate that former Nigerian minister Umaru Dikko, under British arrest for three months last year, should be the subject of a "diplomatic" inquiry.

Mr Breckley, whose report is published by the Institute for the Study of Conflict, proposes that the size of missions suspected of being involved in state-sponsored terrorism should be limited.

Diplomats suspected of being involved in terrorism should be immediately declared persona non grata and their names circulated round other countries, he says.

Mr Breckley, who was also once head of the Defence and Overseas Policy Secretariat at the Cabinet Office, thinks it more likely that assassins enter the country as businessmen or tourists than as diplomats. But their mission probably has the job of briefing them.

To go so far as to alter the Vienna Convention's sections which deal with diplomatic immunity would be difficult, time-consuming and would probably be counter-productive, he says.

Diplomatic Immunities and State-Sponsored Terrorism by Frank Breckley, Institute for the Study of Conflict £5.50.



Royal pupil: Princess Elena de Borbón saying farewell to his sister, Princess Elena, in Madrid yesterday before leaving to study at Lakefield School, Ontario, where Prince Andrew spent some time.

Man who united quarrelsome party

Mulroney's winning way

From Trevor Fishlock, Ottawa

Brian Mulroney is a back-room boy who worked himself into the limelight.

Before he became leader of Canada's Conservatives last year he had never been an MP, never held any elective or public office. But he is shrewd and knows party politics inside out. He saw, long ago, how he could project himself, win the leadership, and take the Conservatives to power.

His victory could change the traditional nature of Canadian politics. He has bridged the gaps in a quarrelsome minority party that has been out of power for most of the past 50 years.

He worked at his ambition to unite Conservatives and convinced them that he could win. He did not offer policies. He offered the prospect of power.

Mr Mulroney possesses a breezy confidence and the gift of the gab. Indeed, he believes his greatest quality is his negotiating skill, a talent he used to considerable effect in his days as a labour lawyer and conciliator. He is a man for compromise and consensus and so are most Canadians.

He has changed the way Conservatives think about themselves. There is not much to choose in terms of broad philosophy between the two main parties; but one of the reasons for the Liberals' long reign has been their appearance as a national party, encompassing both French and English Canada, while the Conservatives have been, essentially, the party of English Canada.

One of Mr Mulroney's achievements is to make the Tories more Liberal in that respect, thereby broadening their base.

He is a devoted one-Canada man and an opponent of Tory redneckery on the language question. He admires what Mr Pierre Trudeau did for bilingualism and the constitution.

'Mulroney is the first Conservative leader to have a close understanding of French Canada'

"Bilingualism", he has said, "is the goddam law of the land and as long as I'm leader we are for it."

Mr Mulroney is well placed to persuade Tories to change their outlook. He is a Quebecer, bilingual as any Canadian leader must be these days, and the first Conservative leader to have a close affinity for, and understanding of, French Canada.

He was born on March 20, 1939, the son of an electrician, in Bale-Comeau, a paper mill town on the north shore of the St Lawrence. It is part of his political pitch that he describes himself as "the boy from Bale-Comeau" from a relatively humble home. As a bilingual Irish Catholic living in Quebec he felt comfortable in both French and English cultures, and shared the prejudices of neither.

He set much store by loyalty, a sentiment he conveys in one of his favourite expressions: "Ya dance with the lady what bring ya."

He was bruised by his failure to take the Conservative leadership, won by Mr Joe Clarke, in 1976. It may have been that his image was too bland: one of his advisers had told him he looked smooth and opportunist.

He went off to be president of the Iron Ore Company of Canada for five years, and tried for the leadership again in 1983. This time, although the smoothness was still there, he looked more assured, and, above all, a winner. He kept to broad concepts and never allowed himself to get snaggled on policies and details. He made his bows to right-wing articles of faith, but kept carefully to the middle, skillfully uniting the party.

He soon was a parliamentary seat and prepared for the inevitable: the resignation of Mr Trudeau and an election. Until he became Tory leader last year he had been a little known figure. He had risen, it was suggested, without trace. But Brian Mulroney had been working hard for many years, building his contacts and his unrivalled knowledge of the party, he always dreamed of leading. Now Canadians will be looking for the substance behind the carefully projected image.

Grapo held responsible for killings in Spain

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Two prominent Spanish businessmen were shot dead and a suspected terrorist killed within a few hours yesterday in Madrid, Seville and Corunna.

A state radio engineer escaped with serious injuries after being attacked in Corunna by members of the First of October Anti-Fascist Resistance Group (Grapo). Spain's shadowy extremist organisation, second in importance after ETA. The suspected terrorist was killed in a subsequent police raid on a flat, and another man was injured.

The Cabinet was told of the killings, which came on the third anniversary of the death of Enrique Cerdan. Grapo's then chief of operations, during a gunfight with police in Barcelona.

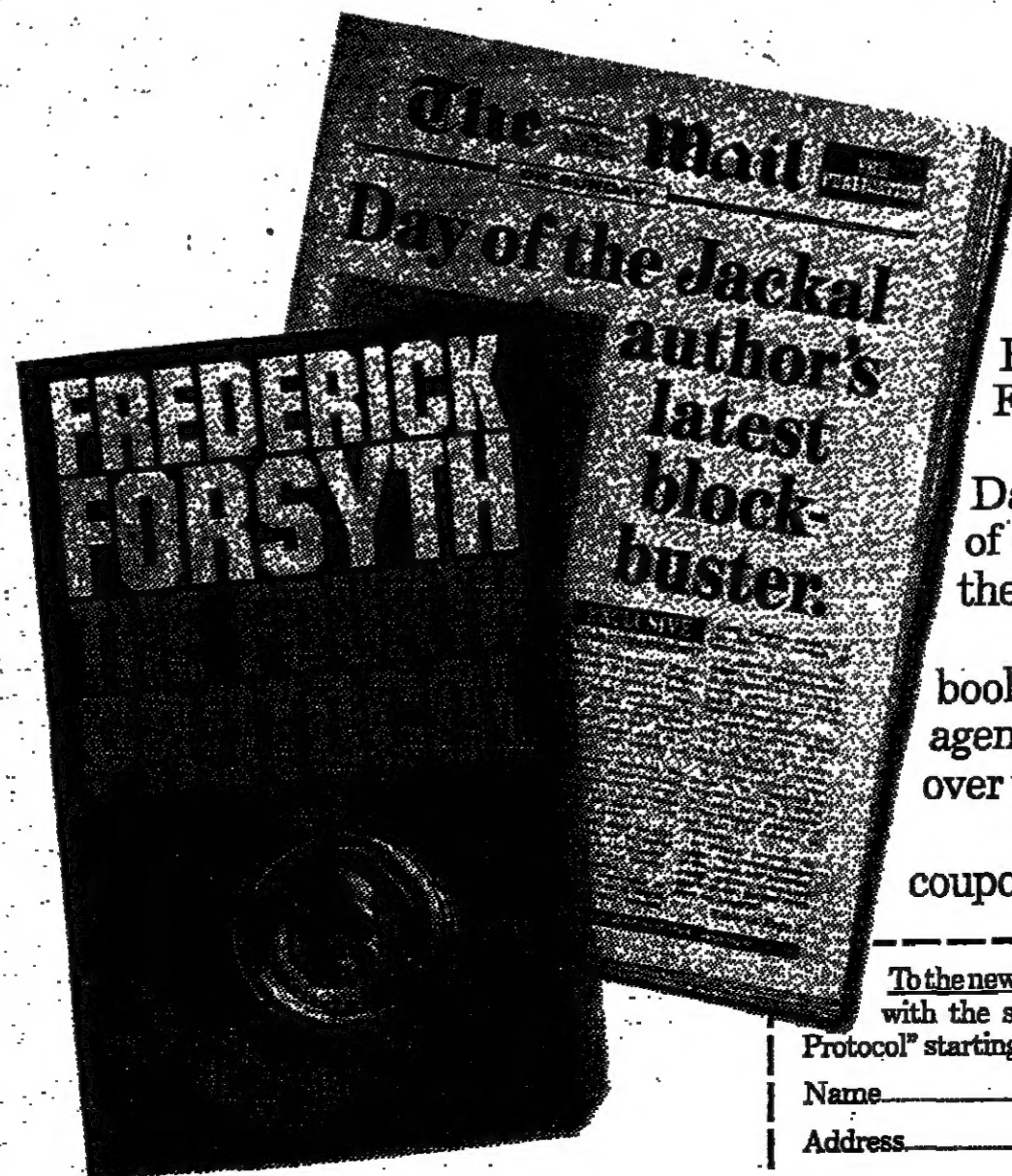
Grapo is believed to be responsible for all three incidents. In recent weeks, the group has staged bomb attacks in sympathy with ETA. Grapo killed two policemen at the beginning of the year.

The man killed in Madrid was general manager of one of Spain's biggest private construction companies, Manuel Quintana, aged 42, shot by a young man and woman in a central residential district.

The other victim was chairman of the Seville federation of industrialists, Rafael Padura, aged 36, who was shot by two men in his office.

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THE ARTS



Le Diable et le bon Dieu was the favourite play of its author Jean-Paul Sartre (left), yet it has had to wait more than thirty years for a professional production in Britain: as previews begin tonight at the Lyric, Hammersmith, John Higgins meets its director and designer, John Dexter and Jocelyn Herbert (right)

Almighty dramatic challenge

Le Diable et le bon Dieu is the one major play by Jean-Paul Sartre that so far appears to have slipped through the net of the British professional theatre. It was a considerable success in Paris in 1951 with Pierre Brasseur as Goetz von Berlichingen, bastard and warrior, who according to Sartre throws down a challenge to the Almighty in sixteenth-century Germany.

The first obstacles to export were raised by Sartre himself, who reckoned the language too "violent" to allow for proper translation. But by the mid-Fifties the odd swear-word was becoming acceptable on the London stage, despite the continued presence of the Lord Chamberlain. In 1956 the Royal Court, which was approaching its creative peak under George Devine, planned to put it on. The plans were then abandoned, according to Devine's associate at the theatre, the designer Jocelyn Herbert, because of that perennial Sloane Square problem, shortage of money. *Diable* does have a cast of 80 characters and in those days might well have demanded appropriately lavish sets to accommodate them.

Le Diable et le bon Dieu came up on the agenda again when Olivier's National Theatre Company set up shop at the Chichester Festival. But Sartre was rejected in favour of first *St Joan* and then Peter Shaffer's *The Royal Hunt of the Sun* - collectors of theatrical coincidence will probably note that both the Shaffer and the Sartre have certain similarities of theme. H. M. Tennent also became interested, but backed down for presumably the same reason as the Court: cost.

The play remained Sartre's own favourite among his stage works, as

he told Simone de Beauvoir quite unequivocally towards the end of his life. And it is unlikely that he was much influenced by the fact that the character of Goetz had long interested him and indeed had been the subject of an "heroic work" written when he was 11 or 12. Tonight *Le Diable et le bon Dieu* will have a chance to see Sartre's personal choice when *The Devil and the Good Lord* goes into preview at the Lyric, Hammersmith, directed by John Dexter and designed by Jocelyn Herbert.

Sartre and this particular play have moved in and out of Dexter's life for the last thirty years. He first came across it in 1952 when the script was sent to George Rose with a view to tempting him to play Goetz. Later he was at Chichester when it was under consideration.

"The first time probably that I really championed it was when the National moved into the Old Vic. But the problem then was that the man who was obvious casting for Goetz, Albert Finney, was about to leave the company and once again it was passed over in favour of something else. Thereafter it disappeared as far as I am concerned, apart from a brief spell in New York when Richard Burton was playing in *Equus* and it was suggested to him that he considered Goetz - and he did for a period.

"It swam back again virtually by chance. Hammersmith asked me to direct a play for them and it was *Diable* (designer of many productions) who suggested looking at Sartre. Her argument, quite correctly, was that Sartre had been more or less ignored in the theatre Court: cost.

Le Diable et le bon Dieu by Simone de Beauvoir. Translated by Jocelyn Herbert. £14.95.

since his death in 1980. *Huis Clos* was the play we had in mind, but there on the bookshelf next to it was the paperback of *Le Diable et le bon Dieu*. (The Penguin translation, which is not the one being used at Hammersmith, calls it *Lucifer and the Lord*.)

Dexter and Herbert decided that London's *Devil* would have nothing in common with Paris's first *Diable*. Photographs of that production, by Louis Jourvet, make it look more like Rossini's *Le Comte Ory* than a slice of philosophical theatre. Hammersmith's stage will be dominated during the four-hour span of the play (including a "dinner interval" of 35 minutes or so) by a raised platform backed by a large screen for projections. Jocelyn Herbert's solution is characteristically practical:

"*Le Diable et le bon Dieu* is epic theatre, if by that phrase you mean that each of its many scenes makes its own statement. Sartre demanded virtually everything in scenic terms in his text and we're giving him very little."

Dexter too is doing a little economizing by employing a cast of 20 - still quite large in non-RSC or National terms - to cover those 80 parts. But the first problem was to find a Goetz.

"For some time I was foxed - mainly by the image of Brasseur in the part, the larger-than-life figure Goetz is generally reckoned to be. But I then remembered that Sartre was not altogether keen on Brasseur's performance (to Simone de Beauvoir in *Adieux* he was positively complaining) and was reckoned to have preferred François Perrier's interpretation when the play was revived under Georges Wilson's direction. With that in mind I went directly for

Gerard Murphy (the RSC Prince Hal in *Henry IV*). So, after thirty years, what is the prime attraction of *Le Diable et le bon Dieu* to Dexter?

"For a start the humour. *Nekrasov* is reckoned to be Sartre's 'funny' play. I worked on that as assistant director at the Court and I don't reckon we made it funny enough. But reading Frank Hauser's translation, the one we're using, I'm struck by the humour, particularly in the character of Heinrich, the Lord's appointed but a man forced up against a wall by the finger of God. He's a kind of François Mauriac figure - or someone from Feydeau trapped by dogma."

(At the end of Act I the "villain" Goetz plays a game of dice under the eyes of Heinrich. The penalty of losing is that he will have to do good for a year and a day. He loses deliberately.)

"But above all it is a chance to bring debate back into theatre. We seem to have lost the ability to bring good argument into contemporary theatre. Sartre in this play has a passion for ideas that is positively Shavian. He is saying basically that man is responsible for what he is and that he should stop laying the blame on God. The follow-up is of course that once you have got rid of the burden of God you take on the burden of man."

"The first act sets the scene up to the game of dice. The second half develops the debate. In between there is the dinner interval - my goodness, we're turning Hammersmith into an existentialist Gynedebourne."

"Hauser translated *Diable* in 1976 after the success of *Kean* at the Oxford Playhouse with Alan Badel. Probably had the same actor in mind for Goetz."

Television
Historic abuses

A nineteenth-century Liverpool chief constable described soccer as "the police's friend". He, like the wops of many chapels and churches, considered this game, which the North's working classes had taken as their own, to be just the thing to keep the lower orders from street violence and the demon drink.

A Leicester University study, which we heard about in BBC2's *Timewatch* last night, suggests that the chief constable was too optimistic even in his own times, and has it that soccer and violence have been historically inseparable. Mr Patrick Murphy, of the department of sociology, said that examination of FA records, and more fruitfully, national and local newspapers such as the *Leicester Mercury*, had shown that verbal abuse, referee-stoning, invasions of the pitch and all those headlined aberrations - which we might have thought of proprietorially as symptomatic of our own age - were a historical commonplace.

In the 20 years before 1914, some 3,500 to 4,000 incidents of violence had been uncovered. In the 1890s members of the armed forces were being admitted free in the hope that they might deter the rougher elements and the FA were recommending soccer barriers as early as 1900 to stop pitch invasions.

Mr Murphy said the tendency now was to see violence in the context of the game itself rather than as deeply rooted and needing social reform to alleviate it. Obviously shortage of time precluded Mr Murphy from being specific about what such reforms might be.

My own historical memory notes that the study seemed rooted in the pre-1914 days, between the wars, my impression was that the young behaved themselves.

Still, it was an interesting item, and it was amusing to hear how this newspaper described the 1914 Cup Final, the last at Crystal Palace, between Liverpool and Burnley, as "one of slender interest except to the Lancashire working classes". They behaved themselves, however, which seemed to be attributed to the presence of the King for the first time and the sound of an early cuckoo. Members of the Lancashire working classes and others may like to be reminded that Burnley won 1-0.

Anthony Burton enthusiastically presented the first in a series of six programmes, *The Rise and Fall of King Cotton*, on BBC1. Obviously someone in the BBC is hooked on it, for the industry here has already been excellently dealt with by them this year in the series *All Our Working Lives*. Mr Burton's programme was colourful but not compulsive. I lost the thread early on.

Dennis Hackett

Promenade Concert
Mobile brilliance

BBCSO/Elder/
Musgrave
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Mark Elder yielded the baton to Thea Musgrave to conduct her own *Clarinet Concerto* at Tuesday night's Promenade Concert, and at one point she in turn passed it over to the clarinet soloist, Michael Collins. He flourished it rhythmically at the battery of four drummers among the percussion and drove them into a frenzy, having by then returned to his starting point at the front of the platform, after moving himself through four points of the orchestral compass.

Although radio listeners will have missed seeing his peripatetics, a gramophone record some years ago proved that there are decidedly sound musical reasons for the soloist to shift his ground in that way. It enables him to lead smaller groups within the whole, to break away from time to time and dramatize the musical idea. It is an ingenious device on the composer's part, with which she enriched the concerto repertoire before she married and went to live in the United States, and it was good to have her back to remind us of it.

Dance

Rambert Workshop
The Place

The programme at The Place until Saturday is ostensibly an opportunity for dancers of Ballet Rambert to try their hand at choreography in workshop conditions. But it is rather more elaborate than that might imply since, although only two of the pieces credit a designer, they all look carefully dressed, and no fewer than 10 musicians help provide the accompaniment.

Seven of the dancers contribute to the programme. A problem with such an evening is that, unless a choreographer has a marked personal style (which none of these has), the products may tend to look all much alike, since they are all subjected within the company to the same format influences.

Mark Baldwin, to some extent, overcame that by having his cast wear surrealist costumes designed by Paul Gibbs, but his ballet (at 15 minutes, the longest last evening) was singularly uncommunicative. I wor-

ked out a plot about opium dreams because half the dancers wore what looked like poppies all over their hands and faces, but then discovered that the title was *Rose-headed women*. Lucy Bethune also made one of her two contributions stand out by simply staging an illustration in movement of Samuel Beckett's *Rockaby*. Her own solo, *Openings*, to Webern's *Piano Variations*, Op 27, showed more distinctive movement, and there were some interesting brief moments of invention in the duets in Catherine Price's *Maze* and Mary Evelyn's *Some Songs with changes made*.

The choice of music was on the whole quite enterprising, ranging from Byrd to Lutoslawski, taking in American-Indian folk songs and some specially composed pieces, but the choreography rarely seemed to draw much from the music, except Albert van Nierop's naughty little solo for Frances Carty to a highly suggestive vaudeville song.

John Percival

Theatre
Unlikely heroic candidate

A View from the
Bridge
Young Vic

Much ink has been wasted on disproving Arthur Miller's tragic credentials, while *Death of a Salesman* and *The Crucible* keep on strengthening their grip on the world repertoire as pedant-proof masterpieces. But those arguments do have force when applied to *A View from the Bridge*, in which Miller staked everything on hitting the tragic jackpot.

"A fine, high, always visible arc of forces, moving in full view to a single explosion" was his first description of it: a fight to the death between public and private loyalties, enacted in the heart of one man, and supervised by a choric narrator whom Miller introduced partly to underline his debt to the Greeks and partly to prevent the dumb spectators from misunderstanding him yet again.

Rat in the Skull
Royal Court

An RUC officer interrogating (no, the title is interviewing) an IRA suspect with an English policeman required to be present: Ron Hutchinson's play deftly uses a concrete situation to symbolize his view of our present function as "umpire between the two sorts of Paddy", weary, uncomprehending and having less in common with an Ulster Protestant than the two Irelands have with each other.

While the PC (Gary Oldman) whinges to his superior and confesses to greater knowledge of Spurs than of O'Neill's red hand, Brian Cox batters at Colum Conway's obstinate silence with a detailed, knowing caricature of the Catholic family: breeding for the cause, dote and family allowance, ignorance, nurturing of myth and a simple career choice between priest and gunman. But the brilliant, if eventually tedious, racial shows not simply the interrogator's eye for the victim's soft underbelly but an equally inveterate bigotry that feeds on incurable history (and the distortion of it in the same fashion). The way is clear for his bitter image of the rat in the skull, the unheeded and unheeded impulse to escape from the madness; and for his violence on the prisoner, which suggests he has yielded to that madness but in fact, by wrecking the prosecution, is

Greeks aside, the piece also appeared shortly after Kazan's *On the Waterfront*, and evidently set out to offer an alternative view of longshore Brooklyn as seen (from the bridge) in reflective moral perspective. There is the same insistence on strict closed community loyalty, the revenge ethic; and the same focus on an excruciating dilemma which leads the hero, Eddie Carbone, to shun his illegally domiciled relatives to the immigration authorities rather than allow one of them to marry his beloved niece.

As Miller and his lawyer spokesman Alfieri claim, you can see it all coming; and the piece rivets your attention with the poisonous details by which a picture of affectionate family life ends with a corpse on the sidewalk.

But, as for tragedy, there has seldom been so unlikely a heroic candidate as the domineering, bigoted and benighted Eddie; while Alfieri's comments about him (such as the claim

that this bewildered figure "allowed himself to be wholly known") suggest that he is too high up on the bridge to see his client at all.

Roger Smith's revival boasts an excellent design by Shelagh Keegan, combining the Carbone's living room, with an upper-level washing-strewn street scene, topped off with fire-escapes for the immigration hue and cry.

Malcolm Tierney, relying on costume and stance to occupy as much space as possible, remains a small-scale Eddie, seen at his best in the teasing boxing-lesson scene and in his moment of horror at the accusation of incestuous motive. The homosexual element has dated as badly as Eliza Doolittle's "bloody". But there is a good performance of the laughing boy suitor from Vincenzo Ricotta, who succeeds in lightening the atmosphere without undercutting the sense of fatality.

Irving Wardle



In the maze without an exit: Brian Cox (left) titanicly carrying the play, with Gary Oldman's policeman

calculated to break the vicious circle.

Or so it seems. What with the accents and argot of the Irish, the slang and technical jargon of the police and a consciously clever obliquity of speech throughout, this play practises unintelligibility like a fine art. The witty, vigorous, authentic writing may impede communication but it fixes the characters and, paradoxically, confines the whole subject as though it actually was a maze with no exit.

Max Stafford-Clark's production is finely cast, neglecting chances - to emphasize and clarify, like the point of inaudibility. Mr Cox, really hitting his form since *Strange Interlude*, carries the play like a Titan, switching from graphic, luxuriant taunts to sudden glaring fury, and finally resigned to paying with his life for a subtle solution, to a deadlock that the militant Catholic sees only in black and white.

Anthony Masters

Venice Film Festival
A visual culture not to be ignored

The Italian cinema has recently experienced the most disastrous box-office plummeting in its history, so it is hardly surprising that the emphasis of the Venice Festival is on the relationship of cinema, television and video. A whole section of the festival is dedicated to films made for television, and in this group Richard Eyre's *Laughter House* (the only British exhibit apart from *Greystoke*) has made the strongest impression. It is instructive to see how other good directors succumb to the inhibitions of working for television. Krzysztof Zanussi austere restricts himself to tight, concentrated, claustrophobic close-ups in his adaptation of Max Frisch's play *Laubach*. In *The Haunting Passion* John Korty limits himself rather in terms of content, adapting trash melodrama.

Another side-event in Venice presents a daily selection of video-clips, a new contribution to visual culture that cannot readily be ignored: films like *Flash Dance*, *Beat Street* and *Streets of Fire* show the influence all too clearly, and feature directors like Alex Cox (*Repro Man*) are beginning to emerge from the genre. Usually abstract montages, designed to generate the maximum visceral excitement in order to sell pop discs, video-clips range from the most primitive rediscoveries of the first principles of trick films to highly sophisticated experiments in editing. Video too has invaded the "fine" arts in a big way: the great art show of the Biennale is full of efforts - mostly ludicrous - to incorporate monitors into sculptural structures.

All this is a far cry from the two grandest exhibits in the film festival, both shown out of competition. I wrote earlier this week about Edgar Reiz's great popular epic *Heimat*, which continues to be the sensation of the Lido. Though actually produced for television, this is a supremely a film - albeit the longest in the world - only completely realized when it is shown on a big screen and with the collective psychic participation of an audience. The same night, he said for the Tavian Brothers' *Kaos*, a worthy successor to their memorable *Padre Padrone*. After the more operatic efforts of *La notte di San Lorenzo*, they have returned to the majestic legendary and folk-tale style of the earlier film. "Epic" is a word ordinarily to be resisted, but this is a film

that again demands it, if only for the sweeping landscapes and Nicola Piovani's rich, portentous score.

Running for more than three and a half hours, *Kaos* consists of a group of Sicilian stories freely adapted from Pirandello's *Novella per un anno*. (Pirandello was himself Sicilian; the name of his native town, Girgenti, is a corruption of the Greek word *kaos*.) All the stories are set around the turn of the century, but have the timelessness of tales from a medieval story cycle; an anecdote of a woman who rejects the devotion of her son because he was conceived out of a rape by a bandit; a comedy about a potter who is trapped in the giant oil jar he is mending; an eerie tale of a true lunatic; an epilogue evoking a childhood memory of Pirandello himself, and providing one of the most breathtaking images of a film of staggering visual actuality.

A new film by Erden Kiral, the Turkish director of *A Season in Hakkari*, is again essentially cinematic, even though it was financed by television (with the ubiquitous Channel 4 as one of the partners). German in production and title and filmed in Greece, *Der Spiegel* remains unmistakably Turkish in scene and spirit. Again it is a folk tale about a loving, jealous husband and a wife whose emergence from an age-old image in a mirror offered by a seducer. Luigi Comencini's seductive and stylish *Cuore*, based on Edmondo de Amico's well-loved novel of early-century schoolboys, also belies its origins as a television series with its rich production values and professional expertise. Conversely Angela's *War* demonstrates how a film can be quite modest in scale yet still triumph in style and content over those, in the end, which are what damns a work as a "television film".

Eija-Liisa Bergholm's second film (her first was made 12 years ago), *Angela's War* is based on part of a novel-cycle by Jörn Donner, who also produced the film and acts in it. A skilfully wrought and subtly ironic study of the way lives were shattered by Finland's shifting wartime alliances, the film includes in its cast Erland Josephson, who is one of the youngest members of the antiquated Venice jury.

David Robinson

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PAUL COX'S funny sort of love story

LONELY HEARTS

A GALA RELEASE

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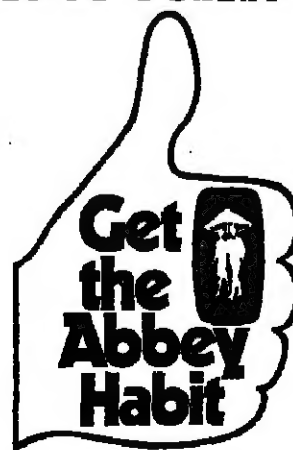
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SPECTRUM

Power and glory of Greene at 80

Graham Greene is 80 on October 2. His career has spanned almost 60 years in which he has produced novels, film scripts, essays, criticism and journalism. Now he stands alone as the most widely accepted and appreciated of British writers. His struggles with religion, politics and personality have made him one of the most discussed and accessible authors of his generation. Yet personally he has remained remote, shunning publicity and avoiding commentary on his works. *The Times* has asked prominent figures in many fields to pay their respects to his genius.

LORD GOWRIE
Minister for the Arts

Years ago, I sat between Graham Greene and Erika Kitt at a lunch party. They were well suited and, as was only reasonable, talked across me. Kindness prompted Greene to bring me in.

He was nearing 60 and complained that a peril of age was that you were supposed to give advice to the young. His view was that everyone should try to start a career by becoming a foreign correspondent of *The Times*. A literalist, I tried and failed to do this, but joined the *Educational Supplement* instead. It would have been more Graham Greenish to get a counter-ster from Miss Kitt.

As is the case with his exact contemporary, Christopher Isherwood, it is difficult to think of Greene as any older than he has ever been: the sensitivity is of a young man older than his years.

I wish he had written more short stories (the collection, as well as the title piece, *May We Borrow Your Husband*, is one of the funniest things in English) and more novels like *Dr. Fischer*. His genius is for the comedy that just makes bearable the predictable and universal sadness of human motivation. He is a bit sentimental about God and the Third World, both of whom, in their mid-Twentieth century guises, he has in effect invented.

A. J. AYER
Philosopher and author

I admire the works of Graham Greene more than those of any other living novelist. This is in spite of the fact that I wholly lack the religious faith which inspires some of his best books like *The Heart of the Matter* and *The Power and the Glory*. I find no great difference of quality between books of this sort and what he calls his

"entertainments". *Our Man in Havana*, *The Comedians* and *The Honorary Consul* all occupy a high place in my assessment of his work.

It is encouraging to note how successful he has been in maintaining his standards throughout his eight decades. *The Human Factor*, which appeared in 1978, was as moving as anything that he has written.

His plays have not seemed to me to have attained quite the same high level as his novels, but their shortfall is counterbalanced by the excellence of his film scripts, as in *The Fallen Idol* and *The Third Man*.

It has been my good fortune to know Graham Greene for over 30 years, not only as a writer but as a man. In wishing him a happy birthday, I desire to pay tribute also to the public stand which he has taken, and continues to take, against manifestations of tyranny and injustice.



Greene at *The Times*: Greene was on the staff of *The Times* from 1926 to 1930. He had been educated at Berkhamsted and Balliol College, Oxford. He had been unhappy at school and in 1920 his father sent him for psychoanalysis, a radical step at the time. He has confessed to falling in love with the analyst's wife, who later remarked: "What a pity Graham became a writer. He could have made such a good medium". Greene's journalism was to continue with jobs as film critic and literary editor of *The Spectator* and his fascination, both fictional and real, with the job has never left him. His recent outbursts against corruption in the South of France have shown his determination to continue to observe the real world about him. "For me political action is writing and nothing else. I've helped and defended some people by my writing. I've attacked some people by my writing." As a protest against the imprisonment of Soviet dissidents, Greene asked the Russians to stop translating his books and tried to arrange for his blocked royalties to go to their wives.

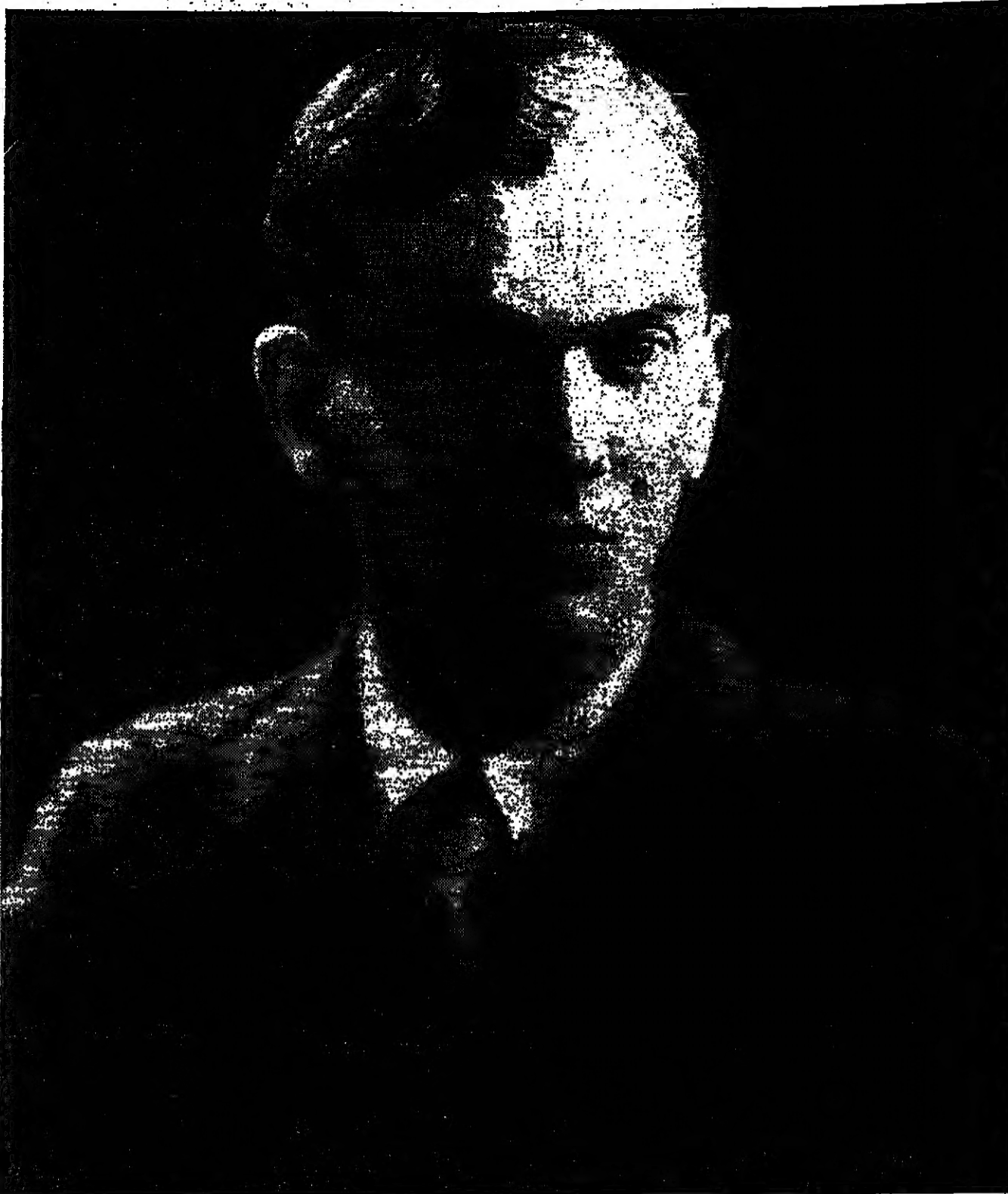
MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE
Author

The prospect of becoming the G.O.M. of English Letters would at one time have appalled Graham Greene. Now, on his eightieth birthday, it must be seen as a just recognition of a long and variegated life dedicated to the craft of writing.

Whatever other preoccupations he may have had, when he picks up his pen it has always been to use words exactly and truthfully. He is, indeed, the most skilful and conscientious of contemporary writers.

Then - what has always fascinated me - there is his Catholicism, which, despite heresies and irregularities, has continued to occupy his mind, and perhaps also his soul. I cherish the memory of walking up and down with him by the Sea of Galilee and talking about the Incarnation as expounded in the New Testament. His favourite text is also mine: "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."

As a fellow octogenarian, sincerely and affectionately, I salute him.



"The young Graham Greene: 'What is the good of wishing? The books are always there, the moment of crisis waits, and now our children in their turn are taking down the future and opening the pages' - from *The Lost Childhood*"



Greene abroad: Greene was in the Foreign Office from 1941 to 1944, a period in which he was involved in espionage, a fascination which has remained with him. His interest in the politics and spiritual life of the Third World is perhaps his most instantly recognizable characteristics as a writer. "Greenland", the mythical territory in which his characters are always said to move, has always seemed to be a land of political unrest and constant danger - typically in South America or Africa. Such uncertainty always provided him with the sense of real pressure under which his characters are obliged to act. This obsession with the risky perimeter of civilization is summarized by one of his favourite quotations - from Browning: "Our interest on the dangerous edge of things." His fascination with extreme political conditions in the Third World have often made him unpopular. His novel, *The Comedians* about life in Haiti under the dictatorship of Dr. Francois Duvalier earned him a vicious attack in a Government pamphlet: "An unbalanced man, a pervers, a writer with a pessimistic vision writing to commission."

NICHOLAS LASH
Professor of Divinity, Cambridge

"It is not reason that is against us", said Cardinal Newman, "but imagination". Direct and honest exploration of the central paradoxes of Christian apprehension - of guilt and divine kindness, of God's glory lodged and leavening in insignificant particulars - is more than usually impossible in a culture whose imagination gives no space for the deployment of Christian vocabulary, confining it to a private margin, on the edge of the esoteric, called "religion".

Admittedly, the problem partly springs from the poverty of the theologian's own resources. As Greene himself put it: "Much of the difficulty of theology arises from the efforts of men who are not primarily writers to distinguish a quite simple idea with the utmost accuracy". Lacking the writer's skill, the theologian's words (as Greene once said of papal encyclicals) "have no bite, no sting, no concrete image".

The theologian's debt of gratitude, therefore, is in part acknowledgement of the fact that such accuracy is sometimes attained in the novelist's depicting. On one condition, however, and it is a condition which the convergence of Greene's political and religious perspectives (not many novelists have drawn an analogy between Fidel Castro and St Paul) has enabled him to satisfy. There must be no trace of the illusion that it is possible to survey human folly and suffering from some superior vantage point.

Looking "from the top down" things may make sense, but no man has ever been there. You have to be looking from the bottom up to speak, as the old priest does in *Brighton Rock*, of "the appalling strangeness of the mercy of God".

The passage of time has mellowed

the peremptory moralism of *Brighton Rock*. The mercy indicated in *Monsignor Quixote* is still strange but not, I think, "appalling". Yet Greene at 80 remains, in his own description of those priests he finds congenial, an "apostle of the darker, poorer, more violent world". For which he has our thanks.

KEITH WATERHOUSE
Author and columnist

I was struggling over a half-cooked novel when I read that someone had turned up a 60,000-word manuscript that Graham Greene had written years ago and forgotten about. I thought briefly about doing away with myself. To me, forgetting having written a book is like forgetting having had heart surgery.

The manuscript was a film treatment which, as always, he had written in the form of a novel. That's something else: I've written film treatments and they read like... well, film treatments. Greene seems unable to put pen to paper without writing like Graham Greene. And then forgetting about it. What hope is there for the rest of us?



Greene and film: His novels have proved uniquely cinematic, almost all being turned into movies at one time or another. Unquestionably his most memorable has been *The Third Man*, directed by Carol Reed and starring Orson Welles. In a rare interview he admitted the extent to which the form had influenced him: "When I describe a scene, I capture it with the moving eye of the cine-camera rather than with the photographer's eye - which leaves it frozen. In this precise domain I think the cinema has influenced me."

Authors like Walter Scott or the Victorians were influenced by paintings and constructed their backgrounds as though they were static and came from the hands of a Constable. I work with a camera, following my characters and their movements. So the landscape moves. When I turn my head and look at the harbour, my head moves, the boats move, don't they?

Tomorrow

The ultimate tribute

moreover...
Miles Kington

Prophets and losses 40 years on

Why is it that forecasts for the future always limit themselves to politics and economics, which nobody can forecast for six months, let alone 30 years, and never progress to the things that make life really interesting, like sport, music, cooking and holidays? Here is what the *Moover* Computer thinks will be in the headlines in 2024.

Sport
Dame Virginia Wade goes narrowly out of the first round at Wimbledon, 6-0, 6-0, after a plucky performance against the Romanian 10-year-old, Monica. Authorities agree that her game is not what it was, but conclude that she is still Britain's No. 1.

Frank Thomas, heavyweight champion of the world according to the World Area Authority (recognized in California and Japan), beats WBNF champion Greg Wurlitzer to become undisputed champion of California, Japan and New York. He now has only 18 more world champions to beat in order to become world champion.

In their opening Test match against the Channel Islands, England make heavy weather of the bowling of the two Jersey fast men and reach tea on the first day at 108 for 5 (Lord Boycott, not out 7).

"We threw it away", admits Scottish manager Ken McDermid after the opening match of the World Cup Finals, in which his fancied team crash to the Venezuelans 5-0. "It's the old story - we think we can stroll it, so we're caught napping."

In an effort to produce brighter football and bring back soccer's missing millions, the FA decides on a new points system: one point for not retaliating after a foul, one for not kicking the ball away at a free kick, one for not passing back to a goalkeeper and one for not appealing when the ball goes out of play. The reward for a goal stands at 50 points.

Arts
Sir Jonathan Miller's production of *Twelfth Night*, starring veteran pop singer Old Boy George, receives mixed reviews. Some critics think that a punk, transvestite nostalgia version makes a valid point; others object that Shakespeare's verse gets hidden in the effort. Sir Jonathan announces his retirement from the theatre.

London Transport starts an experimental ban on personal TV sets in the Underground.

An *Unidentified Peasant*, by the school of Corot, the last painting in private hands in Britain, is sold to a Russian collector by the Duke of Devonshire.

The new BBC-TV programme *Between 6 and 7*, another attempt to fill the early evening slot, is savaged by media critics.

Hollywood's revival hopes are pinned on the only film in production, *Rocky XXVII*, which tells the story of one man's bid to become the oldest heavyweight champion in history.

Leisure and Communications
The great retrospective exhibition based on the 1984 miners' strike, *King Coal*, is opened at the Victoria & Albert Museum by Sir Arthur Scargill. The opening ceremony is marred by clashes between police and public; there are 80 arrests.

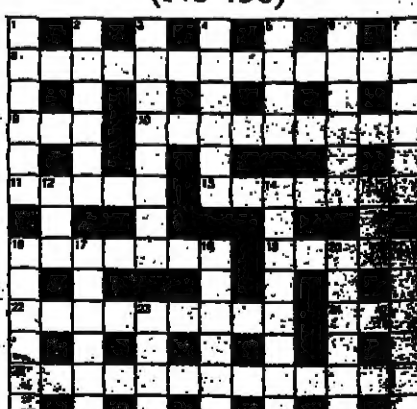
The organizers of the Notting Hill Carnival complain that, although it was the biggest and best yet, the police are still tending to take over. "They have so many floats, do so much helmet-swapping and dance with the crowds so much that our people don't get much of a chance."

In the Fleet Street circulation battle, the *Daily Maxwell* attempts the ultimate coup: to the winner of its newest competition it gives away the newspaper itself.

The Earl of Lichfield announces the theme of the new Pirelli calendar: *The Grandest Old Ladies in the World*.

Lord Ingrams denies rumours that he is thinking of giving up the editorship of *Private Eye*. "At my age it is far too late for me to think of getting another job, even if I were qualified for one," he says. "In any case, we need to raise more money for the pending libel case brought by Sir Auberon Waugh."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 438)



- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS | 3 SE Asia Federation (8) |
| 8 Nauseousness (13) | 4 Buzschoer (6) |
| 9 Engine speed (3) | 5 Money voucher (4) |
| 10 Immediate (2,1,6) | 6 Cosmose (6) |
| 11 Employment place (5) | 7 Mount (6) |
| 13 Done (7) | 12 Be in debt (3) |
| 16 Gaudy trinkets (7) | 14 Scurl (8) |
| 19 Diaper (5) | 15 Cryptesthesia (1,1,1) |
| 22 Chair strut (9) | 16 Make into gas (6) |
| 24 Cat back (3) | 17 Battle shout (3,3) |
| 25 State Department (7,6) | 18 Inscrutable man (6) |
| DOWN | 20 Sermon platform (6) |
| 1 Third party deposit (6) | 21 Joyful cry (6) |
| 2 Tremble (6) | 23 Neat (4) |

SOLUTION TO No 437
ACROSS: 1 Unhappy 4 Alevite 7 Etna 8 High-rise 9 Roll over 13 Cam 16 Flight of fancy 17 Rock 19 Reaction 24 Assessor 25 Idle 26 Strut 27 Apathy
DOWN: 1 Used 2 Antoinette 3 Baboo 4 Core 6 Vista 7 Lehar 11 Vase 12 Concorde 13 Maya 15 Aha 18 Ouse 20 Basel 21 Circa 22 Peco 23 Delf

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BOOKS

FICTION

The trials of a modern Job, the nerves of a bookish spinster, and those crazy years from Dallas to Prague

The best of a bad Job

James Fenton
reviews a
modern problem
of God and pain
How can He
permit the
sufferings
of the world?

THE ONLY PROBLEM
By Muriel Spark
The Bodley Head, £7.95

Failure of the novel depends very much on this brief characterization. Effie and Harvey represent two approaches to human suffering. Harvey's approach is theological; he believes in God, and must, therefore, himself with the same question as occurred to Job.

What disturbs Harvey about Effie, during the incident over the chocolate, is that he can see her as a future terrorist. Sententious shoplifting is the first step: towards self-righteous gangsterism.

I must say that this characterization is economical to the point of singleness; but there is something in it. Effie and her sister, Ruth, are daughters of the vicarage; they are English, but they might very easily be (in real life) the German terrorist world. Or Effie might be (in real life) an Italian.

It is worth noting here that the various countries of Western Europe produce different kinds of terrorist. The German kind and the Italian kind are connected with a delayed reaction against fascism - against the fascist parent, or the parent seen as a fascist. England and

France have very different traditions of terrorist, in both cases connected with colonial history. England itself has produced relatively few terrorists, although there have been, as it were, fellow-travelling terrorists.

Miss Spark's novel appears to be a kind of geographical compromise, grafting an Italian or German style of terrorism on to an English girl and letting her join a gang in France. Consequently, although the setting of the book is quite specific, there is a sense of it being contrived. Apart from the police, none of the people we meet belong where we find them.

As Harvey progresses with his study, we expect his sufferings to parallel those of Job. But they do not exactly do so. What happens is that, having walked out on the woman he loved, he begins to receive all kinds of attention. The comforters cluster round.

One of these is Effie's sister, Ruth, a character of curiously undramatic but stubborn selfishness, who decides she will move in with Harvey, bringing with her Effie's child by a subsequent liaison. And because Harvey is rich (unlike Job, he does not lose his wealth), she will persuade him to buy for her the chateau at the end of the drive. And, because Christmas is coming along, she will invite from England an aimless but ingratiating young man who happens to be in love with Effie.

By now the police are aware that Effie and her gang are operating in the area, and thus suspicion falls on the erstwhile recluse, Harvey. Is he connected with the gang? Is he in contact with his wife? And so forth.

The consequent publicity, as the press and police investigate, constitutes a kind of suffering of Job. But the real suffering is at the end. Effie's arrival with her gang in the area has something of a suicidal quality (that kind of terrorism devoid of any real political meaning) is a sort of suicide. It's like a protracted beheading which can only end



Muriel Spark manipulates a suffering hero and his perishing wife

in a shoot-out. The terrorists take on the state, knowing that the state must, in the end, win. The state must kill the terrorist, in order to prove the terrorists' point that the state itself lives by terror. The German terrorists are saying: "We are your sons and your daughters - see how you kill us, you Fascists." And Effie is saying to Harvey: "You abandon me over an argument about capitalism. Now see

if I am not right. Capitalism is going to kill me and ask you to identify the body."

It is a most strange novel, written with Miss Spark's great gift for the uncanny. And how concisely the whole thing is put. But yet it does leave the reader unsatisfied. It looked at the outset as if it was going to offer more. But, instead, it prefers to take its secret to Effie's grave.

Adding to the sum of human happiness

Gay Firth

THE FABULOUS ENGLISHMAN
By Robert McCrum
Hannish Hamilton, £8.95
THINKS
By Keith Waterhouse
Michael Joseph, £8.95
THE SUMMER BOY
By Don Bannister
William Heinemann, £8.95

Leaving aside flights of fiction attempted by the likes of Miss Barbara Cartland, with the dubious purpose of spreading happiness around as if it were athlete's foot, making people happy is as rare in novels as it is in the human race - to which, as G. K. Chesterton pointed out, so many readers belong. Christopher Hitchens, *The Fabulous Englishman*, can make people happy.

He is fabulous in the literal sense: perceptions of him, at home and abroad, tend to superimpose myth upon his somewhat ingenuous, humorous actuality. "Famous for fifteen minutes" as a young man for a first (and only) novel, the fables clinging to him are a nuisance when "I am trying, of course, to convey something about who he is, his tastes and style, the sense I have of a man caught in a time-war." Making people happy is his "special gift."

He shares it here with a "collaborator": a first-person master of ceremonies who has devised - "I use the word advisedly" - this narrative; with their amanuensis, Robert McCrum, and with Keith Waterhouse and Don Bannister, whose inventiveness, audacity, and humour likewise add to the sum of human happiness this week.

"Christopher says, probably quoting, that the most important thing about a book is what you leave out." Robert McCrum, fast-bowling a flurry of agreeably sour indiscretions about book publishing, largely ignores the maxim. Wrapped in a dust jacket montage of street fighting and Soviet tanks in Prague in 1968, his third novel is a glittery literary collage: beautifully organized language; word games played with careful art to comfort a sad heart.

It is at once a tale of how the book came to be written, a tale of self-love - "those crazy years from Dallas to Prague" - and a modern Canterbury Tale of a "boyish, slightly defeated figure" travelling to find a bookseller pen-friend behind the Iron Curtain, a lost love, Milena, the girl whose kaleidoscope eyes have been closed forever, and a fresh focus for faded idealism. "I like a book that knows what it's doing and with a bit of mystery."

Accompanied by songs and sweet airs of the Sixties, a sad, stylish, satisfying procession of swinging pilgrims ride forth under Mr McCrum's subtle, sharply fastidious eye. *Go, little book, go, little myn tragedie*...

Hilariously and terrifyingly, Keith Waterhouse makes a pilgrim's progress through "a multi-image holographic aura" of grisly retribution as vast in its scale as any great battle painting, as ingenious in its cruelty as any biblical panorama of Hell. "Viz: what happens between your ears and mine - and James Thurber's Walter Mitty's - in the intervals between delightful daydreams, delicious fantasy, and de-lovely noises that go pocketa-pocketa-pocketa."

Thinks is a brilliantly contrived cartoon speech balloon of a novel: a day in the mind - and the mediocre, visibly dismal life of Edgar Samuel Bapty, thrice

married, a commercial radio station manager fast approaching the end of more than his career. Nondescript, middle-aged, overweight in a tight creased, blue velvet suit, he looks "as sane as anyone on this 8.35 to Victoria." He is. So am I. So are you.

There is not an ordinary, unexceptional member of the human race who does not think extraordinary thoughts in that "bubbling stew of fury, frustration and disappointment," the human brain. At least Bapty's silent rages are exuberant. They harm no-one, except vicariously. That is the best that can be said for them, and Keith Waterhouse says it, loud and clear. For the rest: "living, or rather thinking, vicariously, is a trait which he who lives a novel shares with those who read it." Feel free to leave, sir, madam; but look in the mirror first. Your lips are moving.

The *Summer Boy*, Martin Morley, a junior reporter on the newspaper in his Yorkshire home town, is too ardently engaged with his own life to live, or think vicariously in any way. So far, so good for him; readers will count themselves lucky to share, even vicariously, his 20-year-old energy, decency, and promise.

Not the least remarkable feature of Don Bannister's unobtrusively remarkable fourth novel is the way it shows - if we look beyond a good strong plot, interesting action, and vivid characterizations matched to dialogue wonderfully audibly, not just readable - how integrity and optimism begin to fray into melancholy. Martin will be lucky if he can continue to resist coming to terms with the corrosive cynicism commonplace in "adult" attitudes and behaviour. In the meantime, cry God for his editor, known as "God" for a Chief Reporter determined to "make some sort of a newspaperman out of you yet"; and for novels which, in pursuing excellence rather than happiness, give both.

Prolific fantasies

Nigel Andrew

THE LAUGHTER OF CARTHAGE
By Michael Moorcock
Secker & Warburg, £9.95

A CALL

By Ford Madox Ford
Corgi, £8.95

It hardly considered respectable in a writer to be both prolific and a fantasist. Michael Moorcock, an inveterate sinner on both counts, has had to cope the long way to literary reputation. But now, with *The Laughter of Carthage*, he can study no longer be denied his due. This enormous book - with its 1,000 pages - is a masterpiece of the front rank of practising English novelists.

The Laughter of Carthage continues the chronicles of Drury Pyatinski - alias Colonel Pyat, Peterson, Fallenberg -

engineering genius, cocaine enthusiast, Russian patriot, sexual sadist, and fanatical devotee of Bolshevism, Zionism, Catholicism, Islam and all the forces of "Carthage": that polymorphous conspiracy of barbarism he sees everywhere triumphant. This novel begins where the previous volume left off, taking Pyat from Odessa to Constantinople, and thereafter to Rome, to Paris, to New York and over much of the United States, ending up in Hollywood. Along the way, the narrative describes one dizzying peripecia after another: brief periods of fame and success followed by betrayal and flight, whether from an aviation swindle in Paris, the Ku Klux Klan in America, or the mysterious figure from the past, Brodman.

Moorcock has maintained the elaborate pretence that he is merely editing the chaotic polyglot memoirs of an eccentric old inhabitant of Ladbroke Grove and again he expresses doubts as to Pyat's credibility and sanity - as well he might. Pyat is undoubtedly an "unreliable narrator": at times his delusions have a distinctly Nabokovian air, at others he seems a kind of twentieth-century Flashman, but his fantasies

and prophetic outpourings achieve an effect all their own. Moorcock has here created a fiction that is seething with detailed life at every level - in the headlong narrative, in the bravura passages of scene-setting, description, and, particularly, in the rendering of Pyat's vision of the world, a compound of paranoid obsession, utopian reverie, apocalyptic foreboding and, somewhere in the midst of it all, a peculiar penetrating sanity. This novel sequence is building into nothing less than a crazed and lurid compendium of the historical processes central to the twentieth century. *Byzantium Endures* covered the years to the end of 1919. *The Laughter of Carthage* (in many more pages) takes us to 1924. There is, presumably, much more to look forward to.

Meanwhile this one deserves, at the least, a place on the Booker shortlist.

Also an inveterate fantasist, and equally prolific, Ford Madox Ford has survived, albeit as a minority taste. The latest of Carthage's admirable reissues is *A Call*, a short early novel (1910) of interest chiefly as a defective foreshadowing of greater things to come. Ford was under the impression that in this book he was addressing the central problems of "our age and our class": but, as Arnold Bennett pointed out, *A Call* is "profoundly and hopelessly untrue to life". It has far too much of the peculiar preposterousness that mars even Ford's finest works, and for all its Jamesian colouring, it lacks "felt life".

But for all that, even second-rate Ford has his particular delights. The feel for small-scale structure and the sheer artistry of individual passages and scenes, are wonderful. Ford may be merely daydreaming in *A Call*, but it is essentially the same daydream from which he was to elaborate *The Good Soldier* and *Parade's End*. Carthage are to be congratulated for reissuing this fascinating and intermittently brilliant prototype.

Art in limitations

Bryan Appleyard

HOTEL DU LAC
By Anita Brookner
Corgi, £7.95

This is a novel about limitations. At every turn a boundary is apparent: of perception, of sympathy, or of knowledge. Everything is framed, a suitable enough device for an art historian like Miss Brookner, and at the beginning and end we are deftly made aware that we are stepping in then out of a quite separate world.

The heroine, Edith Hope, has escaped to a somewhat blank and conscientiously anonymous Swiss hotel. She has fled from a mysterious scandal at home. An emotionally fragile spinster, she writes long, elaborate letters to her married lover and observes her fellow guests as autumn draws in. But she is perpetually aware that her perceptions are inadequate and quite often simply wrong. For all the detail of her observation it remains somehow unrealistic. She makes a living by writing romantic novels and, more to the point, she actually believes in them. She is aware of the incongruity of this; the rest of her world accepts them simply as accomplished little entertainments.

With a dedication to Rosamund Lehmann and brief passing tributes to Colette and Henry James, it is clear where Miss Brookner sees her ante-

cedents. If the effect is finally suffocating, leaving the reader craving for all the artifice to buckle under the strain then that is the inevitable result of Miss Brookner's determination to play the game to the end. David Lodge has pointed out that at times she veers close to the atmosphere of Sartre's *Nausea* with her characters' obsessive alienation from common perception; and certainly in this novel it seems clear that a little less control, an easing up on the decorum, could topple the prose over into that landscape. Indeed the very first sentence of the book seems to toy with an altogether bleaker style: "From the window all that could be seen was a receding area of grey." But undifferentiated grey is not for her. She needs the discipline of her form and the social and gregarious tradition from which it springs. For if this is a novel about limitations, then it should be remembered how many of them are gratefully accepted.

The flaws in the Führer

William Jackson

HITLER'S MISTAKES
By Ronald Lewin
Secker and Warburg, £9.95

epitaph to his life's work as a military historian.

Lewin suggests that the fundamental mistakes, which turned the pseudo-granite of the Third Reich into the dust and rubble of devastated Germany, had their origin in the limitations of his personality and in the deep flaws that fissured his character: his Messianic conviction that he was sent by Providence to give German civilization to the world; the emptiness of his soul, devoid as it was of all humanity and fitting so aptly St Paul's words "though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal"; and his malignant egotism, that brooked no rivals and shut him off from the essential-counsel of others whom he needed to supplement his all too human limitations of view, knowledge and experience.

Few readers would disagree with Lewin's view that one of Hitler's greatest mistakes was to

set out on the creation of his "Thousand Year Reich" for the total benefit of the Greater German people with nothing better to offer the rest of the world than a more efficient, few empires have flourished without bringing some boon to the conquered: National Socialism had nothing for the lesser breeds beyond the Aryan pale. Lacking any feel for human fulfilment, Hitler's Teutonic Empire was doomed before the first panzer division went into action.

Lewin's view that Hitler could have stopped the Holocaust in time to harness the scientific and technological originality of the German Jews to his imperial needs is starkly controversial. Setting the moral issues aside, he argues that such a volte-face by Hitler would have been no more difficult than his concordat with the Pope and his 1939 pact with the Kremlin. He had the opportunity after the Night of the Long Knives in 1934, when he brought the Storm Troopers to heel, to mend his fences with the Jews. Had he done so, London rather than Hiroshima might have been the world's first nuclear target.

He is on firmer ground in his analysis of Hitler's impact on the German machinery of Government. Trusting no one, he duplicated and often complicated the command and control mechanism, setting up Party machinery to carry forward his policies in competition with the established organs of the Ger-

man state. Using the principle of divide and rule he created a servo-mechanism to protect himself, but in so doing, hastening German decision making.

In the military field Lewin rightly singles out Hitler's no withdrawal syndrome as his last and perhaps greatest mistake of all, and suggests that this did not stem from his experiences as a corporal in the First World War on the Western Front but from his overpowering egotism. Hitler, he points out, was the supreme possessive; he was the Reich and the Reich was Hitler; any surrender of territory was unacceptable and, indeed unimaginable because it was an extension of himself.

Lewin draws his epitaph for Hitler from Doctor Johnson:

He left the name at which the world grew pale, to point a moral, or adorn a tale.

It is a pity Lewin did not live long enough to produce the sequel: why it took the Allies so long to master a nation led by such a man.

A menagerie of the odd the old and the forgotten

Basil Boothroyd

AN ABC OF NOSTALGIA
By E. S. Turner
Michael Joseph, £9.95

noticed?

Whistling and errand boys go together. Or did they've gone. So has whistling for cabs, not whistling by natural gift, but aided by the instrument of the referee or railwayman. Seventy years back, in London, it had become enough of a nuisance to be banned between ten at night and seven in the morning.

Each oddity acquires its supporting oddities. When a guest of the Oswald Mosleys fell off a pogo-stick and broke his jaw, the lethal toy was chucked into the river. The Two Minutes' Silence, before cynicism extinguished it, had

aircraft passengers standing to attention, while even the pilot - altitude no doubt permitting - silenced his engines and glided.

There are disillusioning shocks. Had we not believed (V for Ventrioloquism) in the enviable skill of "throwing the voice", far beyond, that is, the dummy on the knee? Or that the Indians could magic a boy up a self-supporting rope, either to disappear for good or reappear dismembered?

Standing mainly back from his matter, certainly inviting no sighs for the good old days when chesty children were walked round the gasworks to inhale the curative fumes, and trams displayed warning notices about perilously projecting hatpins, he yields to a comment or speculation here and there. Why have we never wondered, for instance (R for Reclamation), just why the boy stood on the

burning deck, whence all but he had sensibly fled? He notes that the best cars "like the people had hyphenated names" listing a roll-call of seventeen.

M for Motoring could be dull, without the revelation that the Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated in a Graf und Stift ("the Habsburgs' favourite limousine"), that Isadora Duncan's strangling scarf was caught in the back wheel of an Amilcar.

Had you noticed (S for Skipping) that children skip no more? Or forgotten, or never knew, about saws, laid in the streets for the dangerously ill, and the perfumed watercart to lay the dust when all was over?

None of Mr Turner's book is for skipping. Dipping, perhaps. Myself, I gulped it at a go. There would always be, always was, a next irresistible page.

BRENDA JAGGER



A WINTERSCHILD

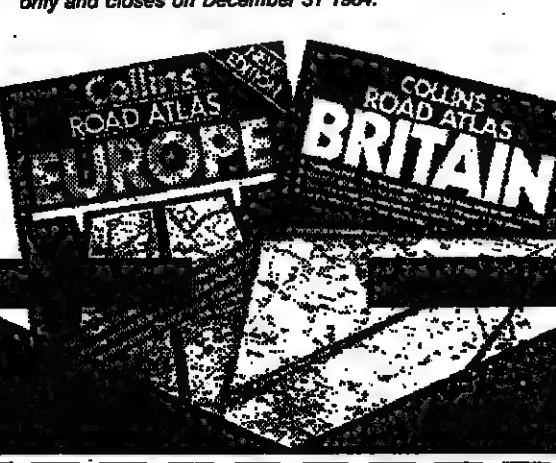
Brenda Jagger peoples her pages with rich, real characters whose loves, hates and sufferings hold me to the end.

James Herriot
Collins
544p

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THE TIMES DIARY

Skeleton in the closet

Neil Kinnock's condemnation of picket-line violence at the TUC conference brought accusations of hypocrisy yesterday from one group of cynical Kent miners. Chatting at a conference bar, they were quick to raise an incident in Brighton in 1981 when Kinnock splattered a Grand Hotel lavatory with blood after beating up a young man. It happened at the end of what was described as the "ugliest week in Kinnock's political career", during which he opposed Tony Benn's bid for deputy leadership. Kinnock, then shadow education spokesman, was alone in the lavatory washing his hands when a youth walked in and kicked Kinnock on the elbow. Kinnock then seized him, pulling him in close. "And then I beat the \$\$\$\$ out of him", he had confided to friends, adding later that apparently there was "blood and vomit all over the floor". As for his peaceful support of the NUM, the miners recalled how Kinnock offered one collector at the Durham Miners' Gala this summer a 50p piece "if that's all you want to see, keep it", said the miner as he threw it back indignantly.

Low-spirited

If any of the units on the British Army's Exercise Lionheart are plotting to celebrate its launch this week by raiding any cocktail cabinets along the way, they are in for a disappointment. The strongest stuff is likely to be soda pop. One unit eased the rigour of the last comparable exercise, "Crusader", by throwing a champagne breakfast at one of the stopping points. Wives and girlfriends were invited. This was not viewed as being entirely in keeping with the martial spirit, and an imperial rocket of complaint was launched from the office of the Chief of General Staff. Things, as they say, go better with Coke.

Grin and bear it

The bearlike figure of Boris Yevseyevich Yeltsin, Soviet observer to the TUC, was strangely absent from this year's opening. Fears were that Yeltsin, who has attended Congresses since 1957 and is invariably first in the hall, had been put off by last year's objections to his presence in the wake of the Korean airline affair. Not so. By yesterday a seat in the visitors' gallery was once more groaning beneath his 17-odd stone. He had been delayed apparently by an important Politburo meeting in Moscow. "I told the General Secretary", he complained, "but he wouldn't listen".

● The "cure-all" well in Medina, Saudi Arabia, used by thousands for its "miraculous medical powers", has been closed. The Medina Governorate said its water was "unsuitable for human consumption".

Strike a light

NUM vice-president Mick McGahey has been negotiating hard - not with Ian MacGregor but with the kiosk boy in Brighton's Metropole Hotel. Unwilling to pay £1.40 for cigarettes in the hotel bar, he has been quibbling daily about the kiosk price of £1.20 on the grounds that they cost only £1.00 "down the road". Like MacGregor, the boy has stubbornly refused to compromise.

BARRY FANTONI



'I loved his interpretation of Scargill and MacGregor'

Price of youth

Bookseller James Fergusson plays an interesting game in the latest *Books & Bookmen*, judging the collector's value of first editions of novelists' first books. The premium is on youth. Perennial teenager Martin Amis's *The Rachel Papers* fetches £40, while whipper-snapper William Boyd's *A Good Man in Africa*, published in 1981, is now worth £50. Sadly the outstanding Muriel Spark's first work changes hands for just £35 - although even that is better than Gore Vidal, Fergusson estimates his 1946 debut, *A Willing Man*, is today worth absolutely nothing.

Squashed

Twenty-one years after the Victoria and Albert Museum set up a special committee to look into acquiring a computer for its cataloguing, an impressive-looking ACT Apricot has arrived. But the curators' joy was short-lived. The new technology is for display only, first in the "Office of the future" exhibition, and then on permanent show in the furniture department. So it is back to quill pens and ledgers.

PHS

Why Hongkong must learn to rule

by David Howell

In the next few weeks the die will be cast for Hongkong. It is true that the agreement being reached with Beijing is to be subject to the approval of Parliament and to an assessment of local Hongkong opinion. But once the British Government has secured a carefully balanced package deal from the Chinese there will clearly be no room for amendments and it is inconceivable that Parliament would turn down what the Government commands. So the next few weeks will be decisive in shaping the future for Hongkong's five million inhabitants.

Contrary to much self-congratulatory press comment in London, the agreement will not be a very satisfactory, let alone a glorious, episode in British overseas policy. Sir Geoffrey Howe has certainly rescued a near-calamitous situation by patient negotiation. In the next 10 to 13 years there is time enough for fortunes to be made and for new equipment to be installed, depreciated and written off maybe twice over before the new order begins to cast its shadow over daily life.

And after that? If Hongkong is really left alone for 50 years the business possibilities are endless - new power stations to be built in China, trade and financial links with the mainland to be further expanded, neighbouring Guangdong province showing distinct capitalist tendencies, with other parts of China following on.

The trouble is that for most people and their families quite different rules apply. Children and grandchildren, let alone their machines, and family roots go deeper than business investments. Hongkong may be one of the world's

greatest conglomerations of financial and entrepreneurial skills, but it is much more than that. It is a vast, prosperous society of millions; a city-state, in fact a nation.

It has enjoyed freedom under the rule of law without the agonies of power and politics. The gap was filled by dedicated British officials providing not imperial control but an invaluable service - sound and fair administration.

But how on earth can a society which has had no politics somehow grow a genuine government over the next decade, strong enough to co-exist for years to come with mainland China, without turning into a puppet regime, an autonomous region in the usual meaningless Communist sense, rather than a truly separate system.

The British Government's Green Paper on political development in Hongkong has unleashed a swirl of debate, and even some enthusiasm. But Hongkong's potential leaders, not to mention its administrators, need to know that their efforts are going to be allowed to endure and are not simply going to earn them the label of "unpatriotic", to be brushed aside in favour of more compliant nominees when 1997 comes.

People can be forgiven for assuming on the basis of past experience that without outside guarantees this is all too likely to happen. It is therefore imperative that the agreement to be initiated at the end of this month should give

much more substance than has so far been visible to the concept of a distinct and separate Hongkong government after 1997. The Foreign Secretary has spoken of the forthcoming agreement being legally binding internationally. This must be reinforced with hoops of steel.

If the Chinese are as committed as they say to a capitalist Hongkong - which requires, of course, a government which is a separate entity with international legal status - they should welcome international underwriting after 1997 as a means of maintaining essential confidence.

The second imperative is that the unsettled issues of passports and nationality, land rights and civil aviation policy should be handled with the greatest resolution over the next few weeks.

In particular, it is fundamental to Hongkong life that people should know clearly the legal basis on which they hold land on lease from the government. And it is vital that the two million Hongkong people holding British passports continue to have these renewed and recognized internationally, even if they provide no right of abode in the UK in present circumstances.

But the British task now, in these final days of negotiation, is to ensure by every possible means that a genuine Hongkong administration will be allowed to govern, that the chances of this amazing, vast, citadel of freedom and free enterprise surviving free and unmoored are maximized, and that the unique historic works and is not betrayed.

The author is Conservative MP for Guildford.

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Michael Binyon looks behind the rhetoric of Honecker's cancelled visit

Ernst Honecker's proposed visit to West Germany crashed on the rocks of Soviet opposition. The East German leader has been left to salvage what he can of his policies towards Bonn, but it is plain to him and to all the world that he was never fully master of his own ship.

The East Germans, of course, have blamed Bonn for the shipwreck, citing "unseemly" political controversy over the visit - a charge the West German government has forcefully rejected. But in one important respect the Kohl government has only itself to blame. By allowing the spectre of German reunification to hover over the political debate on relations between the two German states, Bonn's politicians not only appeared to lend substance to the absurd - and cynically manipulated - Soviet charges of revanchism, but gave Herr Honecker the pretext he needed for calling off the visit.

There is a basic contradiction in West German policies towards East Germany which opponents of Ostpolitik at home and abroad have not been slow to utilize. On the one hand West Germany has not given up its dream of reunification; the concept of a reunited country after fair and free elections on both sides is enshrined in the preamble to the constitution, and all West German politicians insist there is still one German "nation", even if it is now divided into two states. On the other hand, Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his cabinet have extended *de facto* recognition to East Germany as a separate state.

In good times the contradiction did not matter. In the heyday of détente the Russians were able to accept the formula of a "letter on German unity" setting out Bonn's legal position.

But in bad times, when East-West relations are at a low ebb, the Russians have chosen to direct their propaganda against those politicians here who insist the German question is still open, or those groups of exiles and right-wingers who insist the eastern frontier between East Germany and Poland is not yet legally settled.

It is doubly unfortunate, therefore, that just such a discussion should have begun again here now, when the Kohl government was trying to entice a cautiously eager Honecker into making his first visit to the land of his birth. The recent remark by Herr Hans Apel, a former Social Democratic minister and SPD mayoral candidate in Berlin, that the German question was no longer open immediately prompted a sharp reaction from members of the CDU government.

At the same time Chancellor Kohl's decision to be the first chancellor for 13 years to address the congress of exiles expelled from German territories in the East after the war was symbolically provoca-



German refugees going West in 1945; the survivors a reminder of those still unreconciled to the post-war borders

A German dream foundering on the rock of Realpolitik

the, given the delicacy of Honecker's relations with Moscow. It did not matter that Kohl insisted his government upheld all treaties signed with the East; his presence was enough for the Russians to claim he was taking those unreconciled to the border changes under his wing.

In many ways reunification is an albatross around the neck of every Bonn government. When pressed, every responsible German politician will admit that such a thing is unlikely in the foreseeable future. In his government declaration last year Kohl said that reunification was only possible in partnership with and in agreement with all Germany's neighbours in the East and West. He knows quite well that the big neighbour in the East will never agree to such a concept.

But officially to give up the dream altogether is to give up the ideal which inspires West Germany's feelings of responsibility for its countrymen over there. This feeling is vital to the bulk of the East German people as well, who do not want to be left in the lurch by their western neighbour. Without the dream it is not so certain that West Germany would be willing to part

with so much money to help East Germany, or support the belief that both German states have a "community of responsibility" for peace in Europe.

But reunification - however unlikely in present circumstances - provokes a gut reaction in both East and West. It is also beginning to raise eyebrows in Washington, where there is little sympathy for Bonn's wishes to strengthen links with the communist East.

Rapprochement is a better word to describe the real aim of the Federal Republic. How much has this been set back by the postponement of the Honecker visit - a postponement which looks to many like a permanent cancellation - in the short term. The answer is that the movement has been halted in its tracks. East Germany may now be persuaded to take a much tougher stance on the legal issues of sovereignty and recognition. The Honecker leadership, despite its obvious reluctance to bow to Soviet pressure, may try to guard its long-term aims by joining more enthusiastically in the Moscow-orchestrated campaign against revanchism, now that there is nothing to lose.

In the long term, however, both

sides have a keen interest in seeing their relations develop further. The East Berlin regime would face serious internal opposition if it tried abruptly to cut those links that have already been forged. More importantly, the GDR needs West German money and markets.

Bonn has often said the road to rapprochement would be stony and full of pitfalls. It will not be deflected from its course by the scrapping of a visit that, in the circumstances, might have caused more difficulties for both sides than the value of its symbolic seal.

Both East and West Germany have a tacit understanding not to embarrass each other in their respective alliances. Herr Honecker had clearly reached the limit of tolerance in his own alliance. Bonn will be careful not to be seen to try to play off East Berlin against Moscow or to embarrass Honecker further by cultivating him while ignoring Soviet sensibilities. But for relations to develop now Kohl's government and members of his party must learn to watch their remarks.

West Germany is a land of free expression, as the chancellor's office pointed out on Tuesday, and public debate over the German question is not to be suppressed. Germans, as *Die Zeit* said recently, must be allowed to dream their dreams of reunification. But such dreams must not be confused with today's politics, for they are quickly misunderstood abroad.

Can the Colombian peace dove survive?

Bogota There is no escaping it. The image of a white dove of peace looms everywhere in Colombia today. In Bogota and other cities it has been painted on walls, pavements, bridges and over Tarmac the breadth of the widest avenues. In the shanty towns its outline, cut out on paper attached to wire or string, flutters in the wind between the hovels. In towns, villages and hamlets it is to be seen superimposed on the national flag, carved on tree trunks, etched on schoolchildren's satchels and bizarrely daubed on the faces of teenagers taking their cue from Europe's punks.

A stranger might well think the European peace movement has suddenly caught on - or that Colombia has just come through a long and bitter foreign war. The latter would be nearer the truth - except that the peace being celebrated is internal.

To be exact, Colombians are celebrating the recent signing of a series of ceasefire pacts by the government of President Belisario Betancur and the nation's leading guerrilla groups, including the populist April 19 movement (M-19), to pave the way for a return to civilian life under a general amnesty.

The treaties are unique, historic. Insurgent groups in Latin America are not supposed to just fade out like this. They either attract enough popular support to gain power, as in Cuba and Nicaragua, or are ruthlessly crushed by the military.

Yet today M-19 leaders are preparing to reorganize as a mainstream political movement and looking for a national headquarters in Bogota.

The unreality of it all has not fooled Colombians. Mindful of their country's violent history they recognize that the truces represent at

best a glimmer of hope. As one commentator observed, a more apt image than the dove might have been two crossed fingers.

For civil strife has been a fixture of national life for as long as most people can remember. Sectarian violence started to simmer in the 1930s and in 1948 erupted in conflict between liberals and conservatives. The outside world remained ignorant of *la violencia* as the conflict was called, because it was fought in the countryside. But after the military were forced to intervene in 1953, news of the senseless slaughter that had been going on slowly trickled out. Estimates of the dead range from 250,000 to 300,000.

Guerrillas of the revolutionary left first emerged in the early 1960s, the most legendary being Fr Camilo Torres (inspiration for the priest-turned-subversive in Graham Greene's *The Honorary Consul*). M-19 came on the scene a decade later taking its name from the date of the 1970 election at which most Colombians believe a popular victory by ballot-rigging by the two main parties.

It is this vicious cycle of violence that Betancur now seeks to end. He has been called a man obsessed with peace, whether promoting the Contadora group's initiatives in Central America, or encouraging guerrillas at home to come in from the cold. He admits as much himself. After the latest truces began, he told the nation: "My primary mission has been to seek peace but not a military 'paradise', nor a peace of one (political) party against another."

From now on there is something more than mere paper, there is a commencement of peace. Few question his courage, but

there is disquiet that under the terms of the agreements the guerrillas appear to have ceded nothing. They are not even obliged to turn in their arms. There is also outrage that a number of subversives, detained under the previous government but freed soon after Betancur came to power two years ago, are to be given a second chance despite having returned actively to the armed struggle.

The first ceasefire pact was forged with the nation's biggest guerrilla group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC), in May and has been holding. Marxist-Leninist, mainly peasant, the FARC is respected for at least being a serious revolutionary organization, and the truce came into effect after ceremonies which had a certain dignity.

But the recent truces with the predominantly middle-class M-19 and two other groups were signed in small towns amid scenes verging on farce. M-19 has always been known for its sense of theatre and this occasion seemed pure pantomime, with guerrillas signing autographs, posing for photographs with the locals and M-19 women - fierce fighters and passionate lovers, it was said - dancing in the streets. M-19's political ideology remained as vague as ever, except for glib references to democracy and dialogues.

An angry columnist in Bogota exploded: "We are running the risk of converting ourselves into an ecclesiastical rule, or - in order to avoid that fate - of collapsing into a reactionary Pinochet-style dictatorship." This is highly unlikely as Colombia's armed forces are the most constitutionally-minded and loyal in Latin America. A rival columnist countered: "Is it preferable to have guerrillas mauling military actions and kidnappings or pronouncing

political speeches? Adding that the treaties represented "a compass towards peace - if it is all just a big lie, well at least we will soon know."

Vast, racially diverse, and volatile, Colombia has never been an easy country to govern. Yet the military have intervened only once this century - to quell *La violencia* - and the country has continued to muddle along as a functioning if imperfect democracy despite threats to public order from the nefarious drug racket as well as subversion.

Betancur, a Christian Democrat who won on the conservative ticket, has taken a bold gamble but one riddled with dangers. It is not clear whether the guerrilla groups, and M-19 in particular, can bring all their members into line behind the ceasefire pacts. Right-wing death squads threaten to kill subversives returning to civilian life, the military are unhappy, kidnappings continue, and drug racketeers are ready to step up arms and funds to the guerrillas to divert attention from them.

Above all, recession greatly restricts Betancur's ability to introduce real social reforms. Although his government has had great success in slashing inflation, unemployment is high and the shanty growth bigger.

Betancur will have seen an M-19 advertisement in the press hailing the peace accords. It features a new M-19 logo - a white dove, of course, posed precariously between two automatic weapons. As Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the Colombian novelist and Nobel prize-winner, puts it, peace requires "a dove with the eye of an eagle. The enemies of peace are so many and so powerful... that the dove of peace cannot sleep without keeping one eye always open and alert."

Geoffrey Matthews

Ronald Butt

The SDP needs a tail to get ahead

The Labour Party has only three major assets left, and they are diminishing. It has its brand name, its machine and the persistent tendency of a significant section of the voting public to support it from habit, as their "class" party. That is not riches for a party aspiring to government. What the Labour Party lacks - acceptable policies, unity and coherent leadership - is much more significant than what it possesses. Even so, its three assets remain the Social Democrats' biggest handicap.

Moderate Labour voters know all about the domination of the party machine by left-wing extremists who are unrepresentative of the mass of moderate Labour opinion. They know about the party's confiscatory social and economic policies, about its obsession with the mechanics of equality which can only operate at the expense of freedom; about its rejection of nuclear defence and its ambivalence towards the western alliance.

In varying degrees, they dislike or distrust all these characteristics, but they also tend not to take them too seriously. With an eye to history, they recall that Labour leaders have often travelled with the left in opposition but have cast it off in power when it was necessary to adopt a responsible policy.

So despite their serious misgivings about the current state of the Labour Party and its leadership, many habitual Labour voters of moderate opinions would expect history to repeat itself if they were forced to choose in a political climate of acute national dissatisfaction with the Tories. They would not find it too great a strain on their imagination to assume that Mr Kinnock would lead a government not significantly more extreme than those of Wilson and Callaghan.

That would almost certainly be false comfort. Any Labour government that came to power in the foreseeable future would do so in circumstances that would make its conduct of affairs very different from that of its Labour predecessors. But Labour is still the principle obstacle faced by the SDP in any swing-of-the-pendulum election.

To become a significant political force, the Social Democrats must take and keep more votes from the Labour Party, aiming ultimately to replace it. For all the fine talk about mould-breaking, the Labour Party has been no SDP but for the left-wing takeover which forced Dr Owen and his friends to defect. Even under a proportional system, it is hard to believe that there is room for both the SDP and Labour as parties eligible for government, or that either could join the other in coalition. If (and it is a very big if) the SDP becomes office-worthy it will be because Labour has been driven to occupy a position on the far left where power is likely to elude it.

What shape is the SDP now in for pursuing its ultimate task of trying to replace Labour? In one of its aspects, it is a party which rings the bell of every "liberal" cliché on women's rights, ethnic minorities and disapproval of the present government's actions to counteract abuses of the immigration law. That is not exactly a recipe for popular support. But in the year of Dr Owen's successful leadership, the

principal emphasis has been elsewhere. Competition has been praised as well as compassion, and Dr Owen openly argues that effective welfare means "adopting a policy of selectivity and abandoning the overriding welfare principle".

Former Labour activists now in the SDP are slowly coming to terms with this way of thinking, and it is not impossible that present Labour voters (non-striking Nottinghamshire miners among them) with "middle-class" ideas of personal responsibility might be won over to it. They would also be natural supporters of Dr Owen's vigorous patriotism.

Dr Owen, it must be said, claims a firmer foundation for his advocacy of competition than the logic of his party's general position entitles him to. His remains a planning man, and he openly laments the decline in confidence in industrial planning. The SDP's "green paper" on competitiveness still assumes that the government should assist the rise of new industries and cushion the decline of old with preferential investment capital, with bureaucracy planning which industries should fall into which category.

The SDP censures the Government for its "narrow" commitment to zero inflation, and Dr Owen attacks the Chancellor for admitting that recent economic growth is the consequence of loosening money policy - ignoring the fact that money restraints could not have been loosened without the measures to defeat inflation which he condemns. The SDP remains a party that believes in government action to remove the world's evils.

But that will always be the name of the party of the left, and what matters is that the SDP expresses beliefs in civilized terms that respect liberty and enterprise. That is its potential advantage. Dr Owen has given it a direction and coherence, which means that the SDP will have no inclination to discuss its relations with the Liberals this year, he Liberals will discuss at their assembly the drive towards a permanent partnership of the allies, if not amalgamation. But that haso appeal to the SDP.

Satisfied with Dr Owen, they rightly see no value in amalgamating with a Liberal Party that includes too many of the kind of people they tried to escape from when they left the Labour Party, and too much other absurdity. If the SDP is a bad without a tail, the Liberals are a huge tail without a head, withering its grassroots in no clear direction. It is not a tail for the SDP head might suffer a horrid metamorphosis into something dangerously like Mr Michael Meadowcroft.

As a head with a strong leader, the SDP is in the business of attracting a tail, preferably from the old Labour vote. That is the gamble the SDP is taking under Dr Owen; that is its purpose of keeping its individual identity. The odds against it coming off are large but the risks worthwhile. The SDP will have no future as an element of the pay known as Liberal. But if it could make headway along its present path, it would be for the health of the nation to have a real democratic rather than a socialist party as the principal alternative to the Tories.

Gerald Kaufman

Don't let them milk us for profits

In German the word is *ultraheerhit*, an ugly description of a repulsive substance.

For me it all came to a head in the Rebstock garden restaurant, Lucerne. I had just finished an agreeable (and reasonably inexpensive) lunch and was awaiting with pleasurable anticipation a cup of excellent Swiss coffee. The waitress approached and set down in front of me a cup from which wafted a heavenly aroma. On the saucer, however, squatted evilly a small brown container with fluted sides. Insultingly, its little lid was decorated with a mountain flower. I let out a howl of anger and dismay. Concerned, the waitress asked if anything was wrong.

"I asked for cream with my coffee," I lamented, "and you have brought me" - my voice quivered with anguish as I pointed to the brown container - "this".

"But that is cream," she responded soothingly.

"No it is not. It is UHT - ultraheerhit. It ruins the taste of everything it touches."

"We are for everyone," said the waitress. "But if you want fresh cream I will of course get it for you." She did so, bringing a little china jug whose contents I added to my coffee. The taste was as magnificent as the aroma: as I savoured it, however, I contemplated the fuss I had had to make. For two weeks I had been in Austria and Switzerland, countries whose hillides are almost totally obscured by grazing cows. Evidence of the fecundity of those cows was provided by the whipped cream that was served on almost anything that one cared to name - except coffee, to accompany which those loathsome little containers marked UHT were provided over and over again.

Repeatedly I had complained. Now, however, sitting in this pleasant garden, I asked myself how many others did not complain; how many others, adopting the line of least resistance, accepted the muck they were given and had a small but important pleasure spoiled as a result.

For the serving of these nasty substitutes for fresh dairy products

is designed entirely for the convenience of caterers. Large numbers of them have decided no longer to risk spending money on fresh milk or cream, which may be wasted or go sour. Instead, they purchase vast quantities of Ultra-Heat Treated material, which lasts a long time and involves much less waste for them.

Of course, these substances spoil the beverages to which they are added, but that is no concern of the suppliers. Of course, the cost of manufacturing all those little containers is quite substantial, but this cost is added to the price of the unpleasant beverage that the consumer is obliged to drink. Instead of catering being intended to make profits by supplying the wants of the consumer, it is increasingly being turned into a business conducted at the expense of the consumer in both the physical and gustatory senses.

My little protest in the Rebstock restaurant, and all the other little protests that I and perhaps a small minority of others have made, by themselves have no influence. What is needed is a mass movement of consumers, who will cry out on every possible occasion, "Enough is enough." A campaign is necessary. We need badges to wear at restaurants and cafeterias, with the slogan: "I reject UHT." We need to demonstrate that there is more profit to be gained from satisfying customers than from exploiting them.

That will not be the end of the battle. There are other enemies to be fought: the disgusting little pats of butter, wrapped in paper, that get all over the hands and smear the clothes; the useless electric hand-driers installed in public washrooms; the foul rubbish called Maxpaax, which British Rail foists on travellers under the pretence that one kind is tea and another is coffee. If we are determined, we can rid of these and other enemies of a society in which the consumer is increasingly essential to the making of profits. The fight back must be somewhere. Let its first objective be the obliteration of UHT.

The author is Labour MP for Gorton.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

CLEAN SWEEP IN CANADA

A gale, rather than a wind, of change has blown through Canada. It would be difficult to exaggerate the achievement of Mr Brian Mulroney and the Progressive Conservatives in Tuesday's general election. The blast has flattened the right-wing Liberal Party. The campaign has not been a contest over issues, so much as a clash between personalities. Both new men, Mr Mulroney and Mr John Turner, the prime minister, offered the country change. This was an easier task for the former. Mr Turner, after the long years of Mr Pierre Trudeau's Liberal governments, found it impossible to woo an electorate weary of his party.

Mr Mulroney fought a masterful campaign. Within the party he is of the progressive rather than conservative wing and he has been skilled in capturing the electoral middle ground from the Liberals. He avoided as much as possible being specific on policies, but was free with general promises. So this is not exactly the ideological landslide sweeping conservative victories in the United States and United Kingdom have been.

Not least of Mr Mulroney's achievements in the fifteen months since he became leader has been to hold his party together and to convince them that they could win. The Tories have been famous for their inability to avoid damaging squabbles. Mr Mulroney's firm, if often deliberately vague, lead has been decisive. He has

worked hard at the grass roots and has been rewarded across the country.

His strategy in Quebec, of which he is a native and, now, a sitting member, has been triumphantly vindicated. The Tories had one of the 75 seats in the province; now they have 58. There will undoubtedly be a strong Quebec representation in Mr Mulroney's first cabinet (and presumably work will be found for Mr Roch LaSalle, who was that lone Tory representative from Quebec in the outgoing parliament).

What Mr Mulroney had to do, and apart from a slight stumble or two in the closing stages, he did it with great skill - was to steer his course and let the disenchantment of the electorate with the Liberals and the blunders of an often out-of-touch Mr Turner take their effect. The Liberals were the party of government in Canada because their position was just left of centre, middle class but reformist and with concern for the minorities and the less privileged. Mr Turner started off too far to the right. His opponents were able to depict him as being anti-minorities, of being for the "haves" rather than the "have nots". Although he tried to centralize his position as the campaign went on (bringing in Senator Keith Davey as manager of his campaign, promising tax increases for the wealthy), Mr Turner was never able to resolve the contradictions.

Mr Turner faltered, while Mr

Mulroney was decisive, on the subject of French-language rights in Manitoba. He agreed patronage posts for Trudeau men and appeared weak and not in control. There was no help for Mr Turner from his old enemy Mr Trudeau, who never appeared on a platform with him and took little part in the contest.

The shock to the Liberal Party of this defeat is enormous, though after a similar defeat at the hands of Diefenbaker in 1958 it took the Liberals only five years to regain power. Mr Turner has said that he will stay on as leader, but the decision is not for him alone. His personal achievement in winning a seat in Vancouver, though, may mean that he will go in the medium rather than the short term. His is, after all, the only Liberal gain. Before the polls closed, indeed before they had opened, leading Liberals were already calculating their chances for the succession. Mr Jean Chrétien, deputy prime minister, who ran second in the leadership ballots in June, must consider his chances to be rather high.

Mr Mulroney has no such troubles. He will take up the task of prime minister as something of an unknown quantity, and the actions of his government will perform more specific than his campaign utterances. But he starts with a famous victory and has proved himself as party leader. Canadians have the change they wanted.

OTHER BUSINESS AT BRIGHTON

Somewhere in Brighton, almost overwhelmed by the sound and fury of the mining dispute, the trade unions of Britain are holding their annual congress. The conflict is so momentous in its consequences, so eye-catching in its succession of dramatic incidents, that it is easy to lose sight of the fact that one of the principal organized partners in our society is meanwhile assessing its course of action for the coming year, over a range of issues far wider than any one dispute, and touching almost every aspect of political and industrial life.

Of course, the entire labour movement to some extent is forced to wait in arrest until the conflict has resolved itself, for the outcome will do much to determine its role and character for years to come. But there are many currents of feeling in the movement, which the outcome of the coal dispute may either reinforce or damp up, and they are not without their own significance.

One candidate who lost his place on the TUC general council in Tuesday's elections professed himself incredulous that figures like Bill Sirs and John Lyons had easily secured re-election in spite of their public refusal to give lip-service to the statement that secured the semblance of united TUC support to the miners. Many of the delegates who gave Mr Scargill a standing ovation before he even began to speak on Monday - and perhaps some of those who ferociously barracked Mr Lyons

at the rostrum - must have quietly given their votes to the men who dared say that they would not and could not require their members to throw their own jobs away to save moribund pits. Overall, the general council is little changed in political colour since the move towards moderation brought about by last year's voting reforms. If it is more unpredictable on some issues, that is more because Nalgo moved to the left at its last annual conference than because of any wider change of mood.

It is always necessary in trade union affairs to give both sentiment and prudence their due. The indivisible and invincible movement of myth has to be reconciled with the need to take account of the reservations of the rank and file - reservations which find readier expression these days, through fear of unemployment, distaste for being dragged into disputes for show, and a taste for being consulted whetted by the prospect of statutory rights to a ballot.

Tuesday's debate on employment law, probably the most psychologically illuminating in this year's congress, showed sentiment and prudence grappling for the upper hand, and reaching a characteristic accommodation. The general council was censured for having refused to let the NGA bounce it into an illegal token strike in support of its mob tactics in the Stockport Messenger dispute. In spite of Mr Len Murray's unanswerable insistence that to do so would

have brought catastrophe on the entire TUC Congress, resolved not to deny support to unions defying the new laws. But when invited to take away the general council's discretion whether to give support or not, congress prudently reaffirmed its 1982 Wembley policy, and put its trust in Mr Murray's successor to save the movement from sentiment again if the need arose - and to bear the consequences in as fine a spirit of service as he has done.

Yesterday's debates on education and the economy showed similar patterns. The newly-radicalized Nalgo threw its weight behind moves to flounce out of the Youth Training Scheme and the National Economic Development Council - which the TUC has boycotted since February in protest over the GCHQ case. As a result the vote on NEDC was uncomfortably close. But prudence won the day, and TUC delegates can be expected soon to resume a dialogue which often appears thankless to all sides, but one which any modern complex society should at least attempt.

The CBI has welcomed the TUC's return with jubilation, and a reflationary alliance to vex ministers, not without hope of influence, is in prospect. This move back to contact and cooperation even in the midst of the bitterest dispute since the war bears witness to the fact that the movement, is not, except in its own rhetoric, a negative force implacably pledged to confrontation with the elected government of the country.

DANGEROUS TO KNOW

Last Saturday Colonel Gaddafi spoke at a military parade in Tripoli to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the revolution which brought him to power. He spoke at some length, as is his wont, and dwelt on the theme of Arab unity, which is a favourite subject of his. He promised to "continue to mobilize the forces of the Arab nation to destroy at any cost the so-called State of Israel". And so on. And so forth.

"We greet the unionist Moroccan King. Yes, the unionist King. Through him we challenge the 'presidents', leaders and commanders.... They have wronged the masses by their false slogans." That same king, earlier this year, hosted a conference of Jews of Moroccan origin attended by citizens of the state which Colonel Gaddafi is mobilizing the forces of the Arab nation to destroy, including even members of the ruling party of that state, the Likud. Colonel Gaddafi did not mention this. Nor did he mention the Sabrawi people, whose struggle against King Hassan's occupation of their territory he so long supported, and whom he has now left in the lurch.

Instead he spoke of his hopes for unity with "Algeria" with Tunisia, with Syria. And then he addressed greetings to the Libyan pilgrims who had gone to "the Holy Land" (the Hijaz) for the annual pilgrimage. He asked

them "to celebrate the creation of the federation today and of the September 1 anniversary with reason, with responsibility and in close co-operation with the 'Saudi authorities'". Why? "Because we have received reports early this morning from King Hassan, King Fahd and from Syria to the effect that the revolutionary force and the popular masses of the people's conferences among the Libyan pilgrims have taken to the streets or want to take to the streets of Mecca and take control of the Holy Mosque.... He appealed to them not to do such a thing at a time when 'we want to rally the Arab nation together'. After all, it was possible that even Saudi Arabia, 'also a kingdom, might join in union with us'.

Yesterday, however, quoting diplomatic sources in Tripoli, the *Washington Post* reported that the plan for an armed takeover of the Holy Mosque - which could well have meant a repetition of the bloodbath of November 1979 and would, at the height of the pilgrimage, have been an even more devastating blow to the prestige of the Saudi royal family - was almost certainly instigated by Colonel Gaddafi himself. The pilgrims were virtually an official Libyan delegation (in so far as anything in Libya is official) and included Libyan "diplomats". They could not conceivably have smuggled

arms into Saudi Arabia, or planned an act of such enormous political significance, without Colonel Gaddafi's approval. In fact it seems that during August several parties of Libyan pilgrims had been denied entry to Saudi Arabia because they refused to be searched. The Saudis must have known that something was afoot and had taken action to prevent it. The Colonel's appeal for calm was little more than a shame-faced cover-up.

Nothing new there. At the height of the riots in Tunis last January he telephoned the Tunisian prime minister to disclaim any responsibility and to offer "help". A few days later four armed men crossed the frontier from Libya to Tunisia and sabotaged an oil pipeline.

Colonel Gaddafi is said (like some other dictators of recent history) to have considerable personal charm. He is good at confusing his enemies, his friends, and quite possibly himself. One of his present stratagems is to confuse the British public by releasing two out of six arbitrarily detained British subjects and seeking to bargain the remaining four against Libyan citizens who face very grave charges under due legal process in this country. But the memory of WPC Fletcher should help us, at least, to keep our minds clear.

Shall gannet cull get the bird?

From Mr P. J. Barlow
Sir, There are probably not many *Times* readers in Ness, so perhaps I may be allowed to say something about your report, "Call for ban on gannet cull" (September 3).

Gugas (yearling gannets) have been killed (not "cull") on Sula Seir by the men of Ness every September for food since time immemorial. A guga might not be to the taste of the average citizen of the People's Republic of Islington, but to the people of Ness it is just as good as the thousands of tons of steak, chicken and fish fingers your readers consume annually, the result of the killing of animals which, for all I know, may be even more cuddly and lovable than the average gannet.

In all this time the gannets of Sula Seir have not been and are not now in danger of extinction.

Also since time immemorial, the people of the Highlands and Islands have been subjected to the benevolent attentions of outsiders who have taken exception, always for the best of reasons, to their language, clothing, religion (or lack of it), politics, methods of agriculture and now, God help us, their food.

These philanthropists have done their work well. The region has now been homogenised, sanitised, regulated and protected pretty well to the dead level prevailing in the rest of the country and the remaining inhabitants can take their choice between emigration, the so-called "service industries", and supplementary benefits.

I wish the gallant conservationists of Sea Shepherd all the luck they deserve. They are working in a great tradition and the future is bright. The same cannot be said of the people of Ness, of course, but does anyone care?

Yours etc,
P. J. BARLOW,
Aquadale,
Minard,
Inveraray,
Argyll,
September 3.

Strategy of deterrence

From Professor Paul Wilkinson
Sir, The intellectual dishonesty and irresponsibility of the Labour Party's new defence report, which you so lucidly exposed in your leader of August 11, is reflected once more in Ms Mary Kaldor's letter (August 29).

No one should be fooled by her phrase "defensive deterrence": what Ms Kaldor and the Labour Party advocate is unilateral nuclear disarmament by the West. They want a continuing build-up of nuclear missiles pointed at Western cities.

The Kremlin has repeatedly made clear that it will never unilaterally disarm. Therefore, if the West was to follow the advice of Ms Kaldor and her comrades and adopt "non-nuclear" defence it would lay us wide open to Soviet nuclear attack and blackmail. Moreover, as you Sir, have cogently argued on many occasions, it would entirely remove any incentive to the Soviet Union to reduce its huge nuclear armory.

Ms Kaldor concludes by professing concern about "oppression in Eastern Europe". Yet she has the effrontery to condemn the West for "aggressive and threatening nuclear postures". No wonder Moscow is so delighted with Labour's so-called new defence policy: they could have written it themselves.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL WILKINSON,
University of Aberdeen,
Department of Politics,
Edward Wright Building,
Old Aberdeen,
August 31.

Liberian protest

From the Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Liberia (A.I.)
Sir, I wish to request a correction to your editorial, "Facis descensus Averno" (August 30). In that editorial you reported that "troops stormed the campus" of the University of Liberia. "Shooting five dead and assaulting many more".

This report is totally false as there were no deaths when the troops shot into the air to disperse protesting students.

Three persons sustained injuries from stray bullets. A preliminary report from the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare said 72 other persons who got wounded during the rush off campus were treated and discharged.

Faithfully yours,
JAMES H. STEVENS,
Chargé d'Affaires (A.I.),
Embassy of the Republic of Liberia,
21 Prince's Gate, SW7,
August 30.

Soviet sea power

From Professor Colonel G. I. A. D. Draper
Sir, Mrs Young (August 25) tells your readers that "an international arms control agreement, the Montreux Convention of 1937, prohibits the passage of aircraft carriers through the straits from the Black Sea into the Mediterranean." I think she must be referring to the Montreux Convention of 1936 as the 1937 one dealt with the abolition of capitulations, a slightly different topic.

It is more than doubtful whether the Convention of 1936 does prohibit the passage of Black Sea Powers' aircraft carriers through the Turkish straits in time of peace. Article 11 of the Convention allows the passage of Black Sea Powers' "capital ships" through those straits without limitation of tonnage, if the Turkish Government be notified,

Britain may make it, but not in East

From Mr William M. Cliffe
Sir, I am writing as a patriotic Englishman living abroad. I have been representing a portfolio of British manufacturers for the past two years.

It is most disturbing to experience the frustrations of poor capabilities continually displayed by British companies. When I first came abroad I held the misconception that British manufacturers were keen competitors for manufacturers from other parts of the world. This certainly is not the case where exporting is concerned.

Looked at from a simple marketing model, given two suppliers with similar products, a buyer bases his decision on several factors - product, price, distribution, and promotion. The particular manufacturer I am representing certainly has strengths in their products. The goods are manufactured to very high standards and have long histories on which to establish their reputations. Their prices are not the cheapest, but are competitive; as everybody knows, "You get what you pay for". Distribution is not a significant problem as nowadays goods can be transported across the world within a day or two.

The common weakness shared by these companies is their ignorance of, or their refusal to appreciate, the importance of promotion. Today's world is a world of plenty. If you do not supply a commodity, somebody else will. Promotion is much more than just advertising. It is also the fast response to enquiries.

So many times I have sent

The miners' dispute

From Mr W. G. Askew
Sir, If the NCB and the NUM cannot agree about the pits that should be developed or run down, why not refer the matter to a professional opinion? I mean the Institution of Mining Engineers and the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, who certainly could be relied on to give an unbiased expert judgment, based on the experience of their members, as to what would be in accordance with the best mining engineering practice.

I do not think that their judgment would necessarily coincide with that of the NUM or the NCB.

Yours faithfully,
W. G. ASKEW,
3 Heath Hall,
High Street,
Huddersfield,
Hertfordshire,
September 4.

From Mr James Morrell
Sir, The sticking point in the negotiations over pit closures appears to be the definition of economic working. If production can be continued will that production be "beneficial"?

There is some logic in continuing to extract coal and presumably most of the investment in an older pit has already been written off. May I suggest that "economic" or "beneficial" production in these circumstances be defined as "value added in excess of labour costs".

Value added is a simple and unambiguous measure, ie, the excess of revenue (the value of sales) over

Strength of leadership

From Mr K. R. Hodgson
Sir, A statement by the Prime Minister of Singapore a few years ago is relevant to the present serious situation in this country.

Pit simply, who will educate a younger generation of union leaders to recognise their strengths and their limits: namely that if the union leadership challenges the political leadership, political leaders must triumph, if necessary by changing the ground rules to thwart the challenge using legislative and administrative powers, and, when necessary, backed by the mandate of the electorate. If this

Child benefit

From Mrs Anna Knowles
Sir, I pay my taxes, which pay Mrs Gribbin a child benefit for having the little Gribbins. Why does Mr Gribbin (September 3) claim that this hard-earned (by me and Mrs G) cash constitutes 25 per cent of his income?

Yours faithfully,
ANNA KNOWLES,
33 Thorley Hill,
Bishop's Cleeve,
Hertfordshire,
September 3.

From Mr Lawrence J. Linehan
Sir, Sadly, Mr W. T. Gribbin (September 3) is not alone in believing that it is the job of the state to help him finance the cost of his eight children, but to answer his question, the Tories are probably trying to conserve what is left of personal freedom and they may also be hoping to resurrect a sense of personal pride among the people.

This could mean that, while Mr Gribbin may remain free to procreate to his heart's content, others should be free to keep his

they pass in transit singly, and are not escorted by more than two torpedo boats.

"Capital ships" are so defined in the Convention as to exclude "aircraft carriers" which, in turn, are also defined therein. According to *Jane's Fighting Ships, 1975-76*, the USSR warship, the Kieff, is not an aircraft carrier.

Even if the Kieff were an aircraft carrier, the fact that she does not fall within article 11 does not have the necessary consequence that she cannot pass through the straits in time of peace. By article 1 of the Convention, to which the UK and the USSR are both parties, all the parties "recognize and affirm the principle of freedom of transit and navigation by sea in the straits". It may well be contended that the Kieff falls within the ambit of this general principle, even if it be not a "capital ship".

Handwriting in a state of decline

From Mr Robert Purves
Sir, Unlike Sir Patrick Nairne (August 25), I find it not at all puzzling that Sir Roy Strong seems to have found the italic script inadequate. He is in good historical company: he has simply reached the same conclusion as hundreds of educated Englishmen many years ago. For all its beauty and clarity, the italic script, if properly executed, was too slow for everyday use and was best kept for formal and diplomatic documents.

Despite august patronage from the Tudor monarchs, and the brilliant teaching of Roger Ascham, italic failed - after a brave start - to displace the old secretary hand for informal communications. The best that italic could do was to survive as a curious calligraphic compromise: by Stuart times, the literate elite (including Charles I) was using a hand which usually exhibited italic forms (which made for clarity) written with a sharp-pointed secretary quill (which made for speed), and the result was a hand which, written quickly, took on curves, loops and rounded corners.

This eminently practical English roundhand was refined and disseminated by the eighteenth-century writing masters, such as Bickham, by use of books engraved from copper plates, and for two centuries this elegant hand became the universally-accepted writing for everyday communication and commerce.

The extraordinary success of this "copperplate" hand, after italic had been well tried and found wanting, is a fact which many italicists are careful to ignore.

Perhaps the time has come for schools to reassess and teach other hands, especially copperplate - although a sad and ironic side-effect of the italicists' crusade is that there seems to be no one able to teach that hand nowadays!

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT F. PURVES,
25 Milner Street, SW3,
August 29.

From the Director of Aims of Industry
Sir, The utter confusion at Tilbury over the voting on whether the dockers should strike illustrates clearly the importance of a secret postal ballot for strikes. And, of course, independent surveillance.

The Government has given trade unionists a right to go to a judge if they are not satisfied with the balloting procedures over the election of the leadership. But what can a trade unionist do if he believes that voting procedures over strikes are corrupt?

At the very least, the Government should introduce an appeal procedure for strikes along the lines of those they have granted - albeit under pressure - for leadership elections.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL IVENS, Director
Aims of Industry,
40 Doughty Street, WC1,
September 4.

From General Sir David Fraser
Sir, It seems singularly unhelpful to the debate about "liberation theology" for Canon Wilkinson (September 4) to quote, inevitably out of context, a sentence from a speech by Hitler in 1933 and one from an article by Goebbels in 1935 - each, on the face of it, perfectly sensible but each, as we know, ultimately associated with an odious policy.

It proves nothing that superficially sound opinions can here and there be found among the sayings or writings of bad men. The defenders of "liberation theology" will have to do better than that: I do not think many of us will see a close analogy between the Nazis' persecution of the churches and the Vatican's reported attempts at disciplining certain elements among the priestly hood.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID FRASER,
Vallenders,
Islington,
Alton,
Hampshire,
September 4.

From Mrs Elizabeth Douglas
Sir, Mr Lee (August 29) has not realised that even where we have gone metric we are still out on a limb. Knitting patterns are all metric nowadays and modern knitting needles are numbered in metric sizes, which makes life hard for those of us who started to knit 30 or 40 years ago.

Recently I thought I would try a French knitting pattern: once I had got the wool sorted out, there, I knew, be no difficulty about needle sizes. Then I discovered that the French pattern told me to use "les aiguilles numéros 3 et 3½", and that British metric knitting needles come in sizes 3, 3.25 and 3.75. No size 3½, not even 3.5.

So much for going metric to be in line with the Continent!

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH DOUGLAS,
Austen Croft,
31 Austen Road,
Guildford,
Surrey,
August 29.

From Lord Mishcon
Sir, Is it sheer coincidence that on the front page of today's issue (September 4) the headline, "Peres persists", is followed by one of "Call for Moses"?

Yours faithfully,
VICTOR MISHCON,
As from: House of Lords,
September 4.

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Vacancy on Sinai

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Yours faithfully,
VICTOR MISHCON,
As from: House of Lords,
September 4.



COURT CIRCULAR

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
September 5: Princess Alexandra was represented by the Hon Mrs Richard Beaumont at the Memorial Service for Mr C. H. Lawrence which was held at the Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, London, W1, this morning.

The Diplomatic Service Wives Association was represented by Lady Greenhill of Harrow at Lady Johnston's funeral held on Tuesday.

Forthcoming marriages

YEARS TO LIVE...

GRACE HAS 2 YEARS TO LIVE

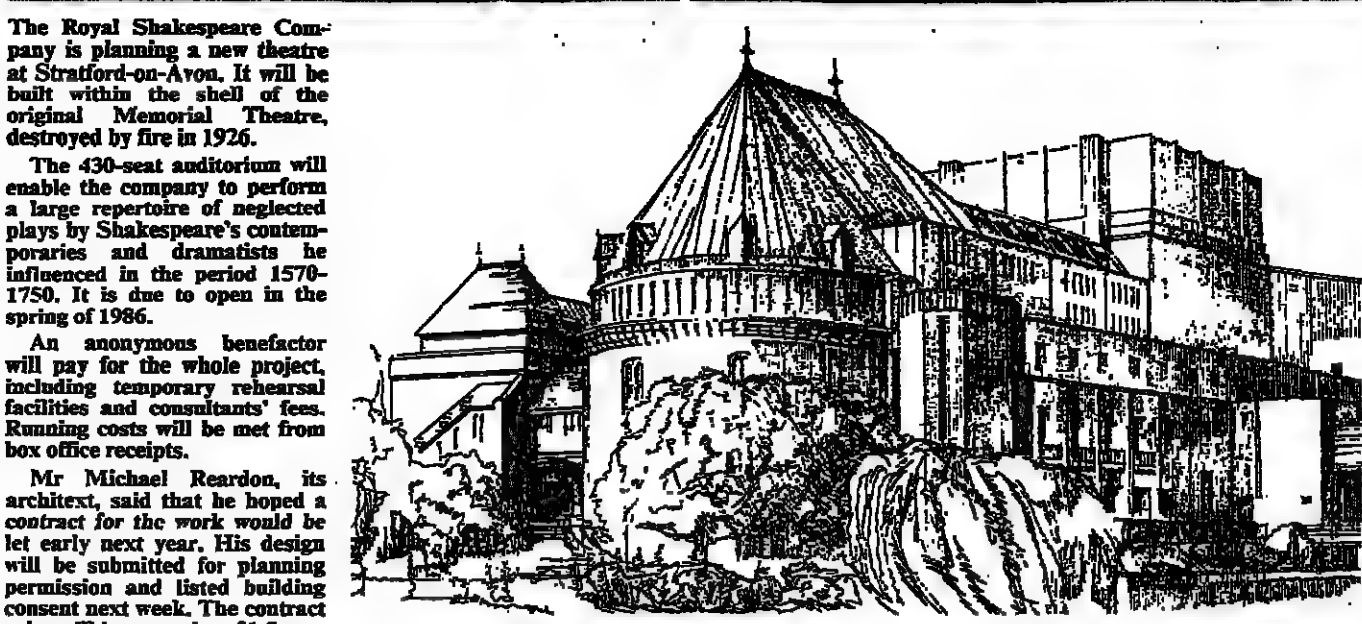


YES, I WANT TO HELP VSO
I enclose a donation of \$ ☐ \$1 ☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other ☐ Check ☐ Bill to this office

Service Overlays or Access/Bancardcard
 No
 I require a receipt ☐ Please send details of
 membership in the LIA Opportunities to
 work overseas
 NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 SO _____

working _____ T92
seas _____
London SW1X 8PW Charity No.31375

Stage set for new theatre



University news | **\$145,000 appeal to save** | **Birthdays today**

University news

Princess Alexandra and the Duke of Gloucester were represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, the Duke of Kent by Lieutenant-Commander Sir Richard Buckley and Princess Alexandra by the Hon Mrs Richard Beaumont. The Rev W. M. Atkins presided, assisted by the Rev Dr A.

Latest appointments

Aldeburgh, Suffolk, former chairman of Textile Machinery Makers, deputy chairman of Stone-Platt Industries, and a director of several insurance companies, who was on the board of the Commonwealth Development Corporation from 1960-69 and was chairman of the British National Export Council's

Memorial service

report

Science report

between psychological cause and physiological effect has remained elusive. Hence, con-

OBITUARY

MR ADAM MALIK

Prominent Indonesian Statesman

Francis Moncreiff was an outstanding pastoral bishop. A few months he spoke fluently

RIGHT REV FRANCIS MONCREIFF

where he continued to be much in demand as a preacher and spiritual counsellor.

H HOLMES

Read Children's concert, and

MR RALPH HOLMES

His records embrace a fine set of performances of Delius's sonatas with Eric Fenby and an

MRS MILDRED BLANDY

Sir George Nairn, 3rd Bt, TD, who died on September 2 at the age of 73 was chairman of Michael Nairn & Greenwicz Ltd. 1068-62, and of Nairn

provided tireless hospitality to notable visitors, many passing

at the age of 73 was chairman of Michael Nairn & Greenwich Ltd, 1958-62, and of Nairn Williamson (Holdings) Ltd, (1962-70).

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

No time for Bank of England heroics

With the pound touching new lows against the dollar, a miners' and dockers' strike and money market rates edging up, it is tempting to recall the traumas of July which precipitated a sharp rise in interest rates, and only partly reversed since.

In truth, the differences between now and July are more striking than the similarities however superficially attractive the comparison. In contrast to July, domestic markets are now reasonably relaxed about monetary policy. The August banking figures provided further confirmation that monetary growth is back on course and there is now a greater predisposition to accept the Government's argument about the front-end loading of public borrowing this financial year.

Another important difference from July is that the pound's weakness is now more obvious due to dollar strength. There is not the same air of crisis in the markets and the absence of worries about oil prices is one important reason for this.

That is not to say that the coal and dock disputes are irrelevant. Foreigners will be feeding on traditional conceptions about strife-torn Britain and will be keenly aware that there is little mileage in holding pounds at the moment. But yesterday at least, sterling held reasonably steady against Continental currencies and despite losing another cent to \$1.2815 against the dollar, closed only 0.1 off at 77.7 on its trade-weighted index.

The next move down in interest rates has been delayed and this has been reflected in the markets by the changing shape of the yield curve. With a few exceptions, the change in sentiment has been one of subsiding optimism rather than gathering gloom and the money markets have not swung round to the view that the next move in interest rates will be upwards.

However, if the pressure from the United States intensify or the labour troubles take a turn for the worse, undermining sterling in its own right, there is a danger that the markets might recall the events of July and remember that it is the Bank of England's behaviour in July led ultimately to a sharper rise in interest rates than would have been necessary if it had responded more readily to what the market was saying.

Maxwell dares as Marwan wins £9m

Mr Robert Maxwell simply cannot stay out of the news these days. If he is not trying - unsuccessfully so far - to give away £1m, he pops up with an attempt - unsuccessful, so far - to end the miners' strike. Yesterday, back on more familiar territory, he sent his brokers into the stock market to buy a line of 4.5m Fleet Holdings shares which had suddenly come on offer.

That takes Mr Maxwell's stake in Fleet, publisher of the *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express* and *Daily Star*, up to 15.54 per cent and clearly gives him a significant say in the future of that company. It is important to add that it does not amount to a "controlling interest" as defined by the Department of Trade and Industry. As far as the DTI is concerned, that starts at 25 per cent for the highly sensitive newspaper industry.

Nevertheless, Mr Maxwell has achieved one considerable tactical stroke. The 4.5 million shares were previously held by the shadowy Dr Ashraf Marwan, who is thereby ruled out as a potential bidder for Fleet. Only last week Dr Marwan, a son-in-law of Egypt's late President Nasser, said he might bid if no one else did. But then, he was also trying to talk the price up to 250p against the 200p he has settled for.

As Dr Marwan was the initiator of the deal, it appears that Mr Maxwell was doing no more than taking advantage of a tactical opportunity while the going was good. Further purchases of Fleet shares are not ruled out. He may find it attractive to build the stake to 20 per cent or more, at which point he could make a serious case for being given a seat in the Fleet boardroom. Lord Mathews, the chairman of Fleet, could be counted upon to resist such a proposal. Meanwhile, Mr Maxwell is in a fairly strong position to block any other bidders who are not to his taste. And he might not be above a little variation on the American "greenmail" theme if the *Daily Star* should threaten to get in the way of his heartfelt ambition to drive his newly-bought *Daily Mirror's* circulation above that of *The Sun*. Lurking quietly in the wings is Lord Bess, who admits to holding between one and two million Fleet shares. Its spokesman saw no point yesterday in holding any talks with Mr Maxwell, but in this merry-go-round tomorrow is very much another day.

Sterling plays a classic hand

The right thing to do on taking the helm at P & O was to sort out its balance sheet, sell off some of the peripheral businesses that threatened it, cut swathes through the values of any assets that look remotely dodgy and then sit back for the benefit of lower interest costs and depreciation charges. Taking such hard medicine can provide the basis for extra profits needed in the short term while management grapples with its more long-term trading problems, for instance on ferries. That is the classic method and that is what Mr Jeffrey Sterling has done. The changes could add around £8m to 1985 profits, allowing for the need to pay for the Sea Princess.

The difficulty arises when you are trying to accomplish this while somebody is standing over your shoulder with a possible takeover bid in his hand. Sir Nigel Brookes at Trafalgar House could muse yesterday that his share exchange bid is now worth only about 10p per share less than P & O's realistic asset value: book assets have dropped from 330p to 260p.

But Mr Sterling is no fool. He has been at great pains to avoid disappointing market expectations for the full year by knocking the more extravagant optimists now. He has also left open the possibility of another good dividend rise should the need arise.

And, at the moment, Mr Sterling's own Sterling Guarantee Trust seems more keen on buying more shares in the market - he is up to 5.5 per cent - than Trafalgar House. He remains as keen as ever to buy Trafalgar's 7.1 per cent stake if it were available. But Sir Nigel is still keeping all his options open.

Acrow jobs hope

By Our City Staff

Most of Acrow's trading subsidiaries are capable of being sold as going concerns, the group's receivers said yesterday. A spokesman for the receivers said he was confident that all the businesses were saleable and he had high hopes of keeping job losses to a minimum.

Mr Michael Jordan and Mr John Naylor of Cork Gully, the insolvency specialists, were appointed joint receivers on Monday.

The spokesman said that they

had already received "a huge number of inquiries". He expressed confidence that Coles Cranes would be sold as a going concern. More than half the group's workforce of 3,333 is employed by Coles Cranes, most of them at Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.

Mr Arthur Scott, divisional organizer of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said: "The jobs are obviously under threat and we must try to be positive."

The fall of Acrow, page 17

Pay talk deadlock leads to fears for economy

US car companies face strike

From Bailey Morris, Washington

An impasse in contract talks between the two largest US car manufacturers and their unions has raised the threat of a costly strike this month which would adversely affect other key sectors of the American economy.

Officials said the deadlock must be resolved before September 14 - when the current contract expires - to prevent a strike which both the Reagan Administration and financial markets hope to avoid.

Formal talks between General Motors, Ford and the United Automakers' Union were suspended after the union rejected the offer which it described as totally unacceptable.

Wall Street analysts said yesterday the although a lengthy strike would be very costly to GM and Ford in the short run.

P&O chief gives a warning as interim profits double

By Graham Searjeant

Profits of P&O, the shipping, building and banking group, have almost doubled to £21m in the first six months of this year.

However, Mr Jeffrey Sterling, who was brought in as chairman to revamp P&O at the time of last year's abortive bid from Trafalgar House, surprised the market by warning against recent stockbrokers' forecasts of a rise in full-year profits from £37m to as much as £40m and announcing that P&O had written £7m off the book value of its fleet as gas carriers.

Although the half-year dividend has been raised from 4p to 5p, the company warned that this may not imply a rise in dividends for the year as a whole.

On the Stock Exchange, P&O shares fell 7p on the day to 308p. Last year's share-for-share bid from Trafalgar House, which was not renewed following clearance by the Monopolies Commission would now value P&O at 331p per share.

The bulk of P&O's profits



Sir Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House

normally come in the second half and while the company remains hopeful, Mr Sterling said: "In the light of the uncertain effect of the recent and present industrial disputes, and taking account of the ports P&O uses, it would be prudent to sound a note of caution regarding some market expectations."

Some write-downs in the value of the gas fleet had been



Mr Jeffrey Sterling, brought in as chairman to revamp P&O

expected following a long depression in this part of the shipping market. But Mr Sterling has taken a harsher look following a worsening of the gas freight market in recent months, which is likely to lead to a permanent diminution of value.

The rest of P&O's fleet is still substantially above book value, says the company.

moves to tidy the company, including the sale of the P&O building and an oil trading subsidiary, and a £7.5m provision for a share of losses on two bulk carriers which have been sub-chartered until they are returned to their owners in 1986. This week P&O sold 30 travel shops to American Express for £3m.

Altogether, profits on sales, write-downs, loss provisions and deferred tax adjustments add up to a £108m cut in reserves to £221m and a fall in the group's book value from £475m to £381m.

The measures have led, however, to an improvement in the group's liquidity, that will leave it enough cash to pay more than £100m for the new Sea Princess cruise ship.

Mr Sterling warns that write-offs will result in "material extraordinary items" in the year's accounts, but says the group's balance sheet is now "stronger than in living memory".

Gilts hit by slide

Government stocks fell yesterday, unsettled by the latest sterling slide against the US dollar. At one time there were falls of more than £1 but towards the close the market adopted a slightly firmer tone and the declines were, in some cases, reduced to £½.

Trading, however, was not heavy with one dealer describing activity as "spasmodic".

Equities, after a poor start, closed on a firm note with the FT30 share index 1.6 points higher at 839.9 points.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE Index: 1082.6 down 1.1 (high 1082.9, low 1078.9)
FT Index: 839.9 up 1.6
FT All Share: 512.34 down 0.83
Gains: 18,532
Losses: 18,532
Debt: 101.84 down 0.29
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1,206.26 down 6.08
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,545.55 down 63.98
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 948.87 down 0.75
Amsterdam: 185.2 down 0.3
Sydney: AO Index 721.8 down 6.9
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1000.8 down 1.6
Brussels: General Index 157.50 down 0.36
Paris: CAC Index 173.2 unchanged
Zurich: SCA General Index 305.60 down 0.30

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.2815 down 1 cent
Index 77.7 down 0.1
DM 3.7850 down 0.0025
FF 11.5025 down 0.0075
Yen 313.30 down 1.7
Dollar Index 138.6 up 0.9
DM 2.8550 up 0.0255
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.2815 down 1 cent
Dollar DM 2.8485
INTERNATIONAL
ECU ED 591/830
SDR ED 780/762

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 10½
Finance houses base rate 11½
Discount market loans week fixed 10½ - 10¾
3 month interbank 11½ - 11¾
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 12½ - 11½
3 month DM 5½ - 5¾
3 month FF 11½ - 11¾
US rates:
Bank prime rate 13.00
Fed funds 11½
Treasury long bond 99½ - 99¾
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period August 8 to September 4, 1984, inclusive: 10.808 per cent.

ITT to cut STC stake

By Jeremy Warner

ITT Corporation of the United States is to reduce substantially its big shareholding in Standard Telephones and Cables, the telecommunications group which is merging with ICL, Britain's leading computer manufacturer.

News of the decision came yesterday as Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade and Industry Secretary, announced that he had decided against referring STC's £410m takeover bid for ICL to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

ITT had agreed to reduce its shareholding to 24 per cent of the company within seven months in what amounts to a complete reversal of its previously stated position.

ITT had said that it would restore its share stake in ICL to 29.9 per cent after the merger with ICL and only two weeks

ago it spent more than £15m protecting the size of its shareholding by buying STC shares in the stock market.

Sir Kenneth Corfield, STC's chairman, said that after extensive discussions with ICL and other parties, "we concluded that a stake of 25 per cent or more by any shareholder would be perceived to bring material influence to bear upon the management of the company and such a perception could constrain the company's commercial freedom".

He said the ITT had agreed to reduce its shareholding "in the national interest and to help ensure a successful merger between STC and ICL".

STC's strong connections with ITT had led Mr Peter Shore, the Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, to demand a Monopolies and Mergers Com-

mission investigation into the ICL takeover plan on the grounds that an important sector of British industry would be surrendered to foreign control.

But STC claimed that the agreement with ITT had in no way been influenced by the threat of a Monopolies Commission reference. "The Government has cleared ITT's stake in the merged group," a spokesman said.

"A shareholding of more than 25 per cent could result in legal and commercial constraints inhibiting the completion of the merger and the long-term growth of the enlarged group," he added.

ITT will have to sell between 2.1 per cent and 3.7 per cent of STC shares to reduce its holding to 24 per cent.

Abbey raises 7-day rate 0.5%

The Abbey National sharpened competition between building societies to attract investors when it raised its seven-day deposit account rate by half a percentage point to 9.5 per cent yesterday, writes Richard Thomson.

This makes it the second large society to raise its

investment rates recently. Leeds Permanent raised its to 9.25 per cent last week.

These figures are worked out on a different basis from those shown by most societies and therefore look higher. On the old basis, calculating interest paid half-yearly, Abbey's rate was 8.75 per cent and has now

risen to 9.28 per cent. On the new effective annual rate compounding the half-yearly interest, the rate rises from 8.94 per cent to 9.5 per cent. The account holds about a third of Abbey's liabilities.

Abbey claims its new rate is the highest for a short-term account now on offer.

Fidelity board turns down Caparo offer

By Our City Staff

Mr Joseph Wiltshire, the former CEO director who has chaired Fidelity for six weeks, yesterday told shareholders in the consumer electronics company not to accept the 120p share offer made by Mr Swraj Paul's Caparo Industries.

The company said, in a statement: "The board of Fidelity has no hesitation in unanimously concluding that the terms of this unsolicited offer significantly undervalue Fidelity's longer-term potential."

Mr Wiltshire said later: "We have a good design team here and some good products. Caparo's offer has no logic."

He added that Caparo's activities - mainly in engineering and property - were unrelated to Fidelity's business and that it would be unable to contribute anything.

But Mr Paul said that Fidelity needed leadership and financial control rather than specialist electronics knowledge. Speculation suggests that Caparo could arrange a deal with Binatone to distribute Fidelity products.

Caparo says that since an initial meeting, efforts to talk with Fidelity about what it could contribute have been rebuffed. More details of its intentions may appear in the offer document expected in just over three weeks.

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London fixed (per ounce):
am \$338.50 pm \$338.25
close \$338.00 - \$338.50 (\$263.95 - 263.75)
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Krugers (per cent):
\$348.50 - \$350.00 (\$271.50 - 272.50)
*Excludes VAT

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Bid talk lifts Rowntree Mackintosh

By Derek Pain

Rowntree Mackintosh, the sweets group, was back as the City's favourite takeover stock yesterday as it surged 16p to a new 328p high.

But Mr David Bowden, finance director, said: "We have not received any approach and we have not made any approaches. There has not been any unusual movement in our share register."

For more than three months rumours of a bid have swirled around Rowntree, favouring such products as Quality Street and Smarties.

The shares have come up from a 216p low this year, largely on the takeover speculation but with the help of a growing realization that the group's prospects are now brighter than they have been for a long while.

On Tuesday however, the shares fell back as many investors took the view that take over hopes had evaporated when the Swiss controlled Nestlé's group - the City's favourite contender for Rowntree's hand - launched a £2.2 billion bid for the American Carnation Food group.

With such a takeover, one of the biggest ever, on its plate Nestlé's would not have the time or resources to attempt to swallow Rowntree, now valued at more than £500m.

Yesterday buyers came in strongly for Rowntree shares, accompanied by rumours of a bid of at least £4 a share.

Few now believe that Nestlé's will make such an attempt. Latest rumour pointed to a company unrelated to the confectionery industry - the Distillers Co Scotch whisky and gin group.

The DCL, as it is called in the City and the drinks trade, has made no secret of its desire to expand beyond its traditional drinks role. And the general view is that unless the Johnnie Walker to Gordon's gin group displays a more dynamic approach it will itself fall victim to a takeover bid.

With the General Electric Co sitting on just under 3 per cent of the DCL capital there have been recurring rumours of a bid. Yesterday its shares slipped 2p to 293p.

After Tuesday's bloodbath equities were in a much more

resilient form yesterday. The FT 30 share index started with a 5.9 points fall. But it closed with a 1.6 points gain to 839.9 points. The FT-SE 100 share index also improved as the day progressed but it could only reduce its fall to 1.1 points at 1,082.6 points.

The FT 30 share index was pulled back by the weakness of

Burmah Oil, that old takeover favourite, is expected to announce interim profits of £35m (£31.3m) next week. About £30m seems likely for the full year. The shares were up 4p to 194p at one stage yesterday. They closed at 192p, just 8p off their year's high.

Two of its constituents - P and O and BICC. Both announced disappointing results. P and O fell 7p to 308p and BICC lost 17p to equal its year's low at 208p.

Government stocks came in for a battering. The sad plight of sterling against the still strong US dollar - at one time almost down to 1.28 - left the market demoralized and there were falls of more than £1 at one

time. Towards the close there were signs of returning firmness and gilts closed with falls of £4 to £7 1/2 on the day.

Chubb, the security group fighting a bid from Rascal Electronics, rose 5p to 266p. Its defence document is due out today. It is widely expected that the release of the group's defence will prompt at least one of the companies lurking on the sidelines to declare their hand and launch a counter bid for the group.

Oils were mixed but Lasso recovered from the setback induced by the denial of a bid from Broken Hill Proprietary to gain 10p to 328p - thanks to its own Australian initiative.

The group, best known for its North Sea involvement, announced that it had accomplished a successful first appraisal well on its Cooper Basin (Queensland) discovery. It is now drilling nearby. The company said it would also come good then Lasso could have a rich find on its hands.

Mr Chris Rowland, an analyst with de Zoete and Bevan, the broker, believes on conservative calculations that Lasso's present Queensland strike could produce a yearly net income of £3m for the company. "Provisional indications suggest the reservoir can sustain this flow rate for more than 10 years and on this basis the prospect would be worth upwards of 25p a share to the group's asset value", he said. Lasso has a 26.25 per cent interest in the Cooper Basin discovery.

Drink shares remained subdued with breweries still worried by the surprise fall in July beer consumption. Invergordon Distillers, the Scotch whiskey group controlled by Hawker Siddeley, was unchanged at 142p after it had announced same-day 1.5p interim dividend and little changed pretax profits of £1,835,000.

The company is striving to build up its Scots Grey brand in the United States. Progress, it says, has been slow but this has been compensated by increases in the other activities of the company.

Insurance shares were little changed after the interims from Sun Alliance and Guardian Royal Exchange although Sun relinquished 13p to 373p after its announcement.

Among FT index stocks BTR

regained an 8p fall to close unchanged at 487p. Its interim figures are due next week.

Lake and Elliott rose 3p to 43p on hopes that Mr David Abell's acquisitive Suter group will launch a bid for full control and Birmid Qualcast continued to hover around the mid-80s on speculation that its mysterious overseas shareholder is still picking up stock. Yesterday they rose 2 1/2p to 85 1/2p.

Memory Computer, the one-time Irish go-go stock, suspended at 80p on Tuesday, said yesterday that it intends to raise further permanent capital by a share issue.

Details are expected with the accounts for the year to March 1984 although the date of publication is still uncertain. Meanwhile talks are believed to be under way between Touche Ross, the auditors, and the company about monies from two overseas contracts.

Thermax is hunting for acquisitions to supplement its London metal-bashing operation. The group, with its printed and toughened glass division providing 85 per cent of profits, feels the metals sector should be improved. It has so far examined and discarded six possible takeovers. Yesterday the company disclosed year's pretax profits of about £2m (£1.3m) and a 3.25p dividend. For the present year the group, which plans a big US sales build up and is considering a production unit in Australia, which should achieve £3m. The shares, unchanged at 140p appear to be good value.

The auditors refusal to allow profits from the two contracts to be taken into the results because the cash had not actually been received led to a revision of profits from £1,588m to just £1,760,000, causing a collapse in the share market.

Fidelity gained 2p to 120p. The company has rejected the bid from Caparo Industries. J. Bibby, the animal feed group which is in takeover talks with Barlow Rand, came in for a modest run with a 5p gain to 283p. Fleet Holdings rose 2p to 198p on the increased Pergamon Press shareholding.

Tuesday's equity turnover, 14,221 bargains, was valued at £198,779m. Gilt bargains were 2,648. Total number of shares traded at 118.3 million.

TEMPUS

BICC on course but has a long way to go

Followers of BICC would do well to heed the old adage: "Blessed are they who expect nothing for they shall not be disappointed." The City has been expecting BICC to show some signs of genuine recovery and seeing few in yesterday's interim results the disappointment was duly registered in the shape of a 7p fall in the share price to 208p, its low for the year.

BICC is clearly moving in the right direction but as yet it is not firing on all four cylinders. The Balfour Beatty division is doing very well but there are difficulties in the other three divisions.

By far the most worrying is the international division, where both the South African and Canadian operations are struggling to break even. These two countries account for around 20 per cent of the group's business. There seems little that BICC can do and the company is very much in the hands of the two economies.

The cables division is still in the throes of restructuring and rationalization. A hefty capital investment programme is helping to modernize plant and improving efficiency but there will be more closure and redundancy costs to come.

There was a charge of £4m above the line in the first half for reorganization and this could be higher in the second half.

The miners' strike has also cost the company about £2m and the impact could become more serious without an early solution.

In the industrial products division there has been an improvement although not as rapid as some would have liked. A change in the division's name will improve customer awareness and the second half should see further growth.

Overall, the message from yesterday's pretax figure of £42.5m, up from £35m, is that progress is being made but it will take longer for the benefits to show through the results.

The management's commitment to improve the business is reflected in the budgeted £30m-plus capital spending. This will be covered ad-

equately by a cash flow bolstered by Balfour Beatty's cash generating powers.

How long BICC takes to move from recovery to growth will depend a lot on the success of chairman-designate Sir William Barlow's policy of decentralization. It will be at least 1985 before clearer indications emerge.

Reckitt & Colman

Do not be surprised if Reckitt & Colman transforms itself out of all recognition shortly. America provides the key. Reckitt is pushing into the US quickly and successfully via Bully and the group has grabbed a useful slice of the lavatory cleaner market.

Reckitt's tiny US profit margins show the scale of the promotional spend. Interim US sales totalled £117m, up 18 per cent, but profits were under £500,000. Assuming target margins are 10 per cent, this points to an annual outlay of perhaps £20m or more.

But it takes time to build a US business from the grassroots. Expand or die is the watchword of the changing world household products industry. Reckitt is only one bad set of figures away from an unwelcome bid.

Hence the group's oft-stated desire to make a strategic acquisition is taking on a note of urgency. Anything in the US or the UK would fit, provided it gave added American penetration. The group is happy to spend up to £100m.

It is also willing to finance the deal by selling, or perhaps even wapping, ancillary divisions, like pharmaceuticals, or industrial cleaning, which together must be worth close on £100m.

The need to expand into the US may therefore impose a rationalizing discipline on the present sprawl of interests. A p/e of 13 at 523p on the past 12 months' earnings hints at market endorsement.

GRE/Sun Alliance

In comparison with the results announced by other composite insurers, the half year figures

from Guardian Royal Exchange and Sun Alliance yesterday look remarkably good. Given difficult insurance market conditions, GRE's reduction in pretax profits of only 7.8 per cent is about as small as could have been expected. And although Sun Alliance's pretax profit fell by more than 60 per cent, at least it managed to stay in the black.

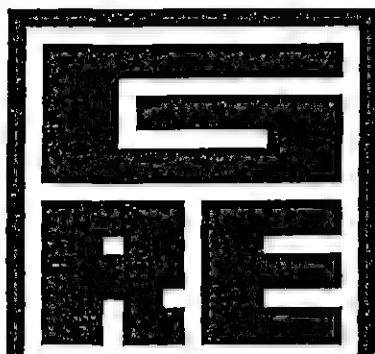
Nevertheless, on a comparison of the two companies, Sun Alliance has clearly come out worse. To some extent this reflects the different spread of business. Sun Alliance has a very large house insurance account and was consequently hit harder by bad weather, in the first quarter, which cost £17.5m in claims. A sharp increase in subsequence claims also took a heavy toll.

GRE too, felt the effects of bad weather but not to the same extent. Subsidised losses also nearly doubled over last year's first half, and the company blames the fall in profits principally on these areas, but it still comes off more lightly than Sun Alliance.

One of GRE's main areas of business is its motor account. While this did not perform particularly well, it has not done as badly as it at first appears. The company has reserved heavily on this account, pulling down its profits quite considerably.

The geographical spread of the two companies' businesses has also had some effect. GRE, with only eight per cent of its business in the US, has the smallest exposure there of any composite. Consequently, the appalling conditions in the American market have affected its results less than those of Sun Alliance.

For the rest of the year each company's fortunes will again be affected by the mix of business. GRE, for example, traditionally has a significantly better second half and should benefit from its conservative reserving in the first half. Nevertheless, neither company is painting a particularly rosy picture of the future in a market which still remains difficult.



Interim Statement

The unaudited estimated results of Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance plc for the six months ended 30th June 1984 are as follows:

	First 6 months 1984	First 6 months 1983	Year 1983*
Investment Income	90.3	84.9	178.5
Less Interest Payable	7.2	5.6	11.0
	83.1	79.3	167.5
Underwriting Results			
Short-term (Fire, Accident and Marine)	(43.9)	(36.1)	(63.5)
Long-term	6.9	6.8	18.1
	(37.0)	(29.3)	(45.4)
Profit before taxation	46.1	50.0	122.1
Less Taxation	20.5	19.2	51.6
Profit after taxation	25.6	30.8	70.5
Less Preference dividend and Minority Interests	1.5	1.8	3.6
Profit after taxation available to Ordinary shareholders	24.1	29.0	66.9
Ordinary Dividend	13.4	12.2	36.1
Transferred to retained profits	10.7	16.8	30.8
Earnings per Ordinary share (after taxation)	15.3p	18.4p	42.6p

*Extracted from the Company's full Accounts for the year 1983 which received an unqualified Auditor's Report and which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

Results by Territories (before taxation)	First 6 months 1984	First 6 months 1983	Investment Income
	Net Premiums	Underwriting Results	Net Premiums
Australia	44.7	3.6	7.2
Canada	47.9	(1.4)	6.3
Germany	99.8	(3.1)	9.3
Republic of Ireland	10.6	(1.6)	2.2
South Africa	24.4	(1.1)	2.8
U.K.	199.7	(29.8)	37.7
U.S.A.	69.9	(7.5)	6.4
Miscellaneous	92.2	(3.0)	11.2
	589.2 (43.9)	83.1	533.1 (36.1)

The territorial results are stated after reinsurance protection from group companies including protection under the worldwide stop loss arrangements. The Miscellaneous underwriting result includes this reinsurance in respect of the territories shown below:

	First 6 months 1984	First 6 months 1983
Australia	0.3	(3.5)
Canada	1.2	1.1
South Africa	0.1	0.3
U.S.A.	(2.0)	
Others	(1.1)	(0.6)
	(1.5)	(2.7)

Exchange Rates	30th June 1984	30th June 1983
Australia	1.57	1.75
Canada	1.78	1.88
Germany	3.77	3.90
Republic of Ireland	1.23	1.24
South Africa	1.85	1.67
U.S.A.	1.35	1.53

Life New Business	First 6 months 1984	First 6 months 1983
New Sums Assured	2,585.1	3,200.3
New Annuities per annum	40.9	52.5
New Annual Premiums	30.0	37.3
New Single Premiums	69.1	42.9

The effect of exchange rate movements has been to increase net premiums by £20.1m, investment income by £2.5m and the short-term business underwriting loss by £0.1m. After allowing for the effect of exchange rate movements, the underlying growth was 7% in premiums and 11% in investment income.

The improvement in the short-term business underwriting result for Australia has been assisted by the absence of catastrophe losses in the first six months of 1984 and a significant underwriting profit has been achieved but the underwriting results for Canada, South Africa and U.S.A. have deteriorated due primarily to intense competition for business. Premium growth in the United Kingdom

continued to be depressed and underwriting results were adversely affected by the cost of storm damage in the early months of the year. There have been welcome improvements in the underwriting results in

Germany and Republic of Ireland. Elsewhere there have been useful underwriting profit contributions from territories in the Far East.

Investment income growth has been restricted by the impact of underwriting results on cash flows and lower profits from Broseley Property Holdings.

The long-term business underwriting result represents one half of the expected transfer to shareholders for the full year.

The increased profit earned in Australia has resulted in a higher tax charge.

Dividend

An interim dividend in respect of the year 1984 will be paid on 3rd January 1985 of 8.5p per share (1983 - 7.75p per share) which, with the tax credit available to eligible shareholders, is equivalent to 12.14p per share (1983 - 11.07p per share). This dividend will be paid to holders of Ordinary shares whose names appear on the register on 8th December 1984.

Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance

MONEY MARKETS

Interbank rates opened on 11-10% per cent and had already come off to 10% 1/2 per cent before forecast of a money market shortage.

When the Bank of England virtually took the shortage out with early assistance to discount houses, the rate fell sharply.

Further declines took the market down to 5 per cent by the close.

Clearing Bank Rate 10%.

Discount Bill Loans: 10%.

Overnight High 10%.

Week End: 10%.

Money Market (10%): 10%.

Prime Bank Bill (10%): 10%.

1 month 10%: 10%.

3 months 10%: 10%.

6 months 10%: 10%.

1 year 10%: 10%.

Local Authority (10%): 10%.

1 month 10%: 10%.

3 months 10%: 10%.

6 months 10%: 10%.

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Local Authority (10%): 10%.

1 month 10%: 10%.

3 months 10%: 10%.

6 months 10%: 10%.

1 year 10%: 10%.

Local Authority (10%): 10%.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates, day's range	Market rates September 8	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year
New York	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Montevideo	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
London	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Frankfurt	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Paris	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Geneva	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Basel	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Zurich	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Amsterdam	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Antwerp	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
Brussels	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400	1.5400-1.5400
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Spirit of competition that won a place in the Olympics

Small men from Enterprise Valley take road to the top

A small clothing manufacturer in the Val Vibrata, Italy, was watching a lunchtime television show, at which the guest of honour was a leading Italian fashion designer. The designer was wearing a particularly striking sweater.

The manufacturer got his staff working that evening on "redesigning" the sweater, and the following day it was ready to go into production.

The manufacturer is Signor Antonio Angelini, president of the consortium for the development of the Val Vibrata. The valley in Abruzzo, Northern Italy's backward south, comprises 12 local authorities, with 1,602 small industrial companies employing 11,430 people and recording a total annual turnover of £1,100 million (£475m). They mostly make clothing, leatherwear and accessories, and furniture.

The economy is still partly submerged, but during the last 20 years it has been emerging increasingly above the surface of full legality.

Typically, a plant will have been set up by two or three workers who broke away from their previous work and formed a nucleus, drawing on family or cottage labour.

But despite such humble beginnings there have been some remarkable developments.

The largest company in the valley, which employs 180, sells 90 per cent of its products in Italy. In spite of this, it won exclusive rights from Los Angeles to make Olympic labelled bags for the Italian, Swiss and Greek markets.

A knitwear manufacturer with only 22 workers and 38 small, outside contractors also forged an Olympic link. The company, which buys Shetland wool and knits it into far from traditional patterns, sponsored the Zaire basketball teams at Los Angeles.

The quality of the valley's skills has been recognized by a number of internationally-known fashion and clothing houses.

The knitwear company, for example, sells outfits to one of them for £30,000 (£13). The famous house sells them at £150,000.

Local businesses claim that



Some of Britain's most isolated industrial villages and valleys may have to adapt to a life without coal. Could they learn some lessons from an obscure valley in central Italy, where a combination of self-help, solidarity, government loans and advice has brought new prosperity and ambitions in a few years? John Earle reports.

Vibrato, Versace, Benetton, Jesus and Wrangler jeans, Eliseo, Les Copains and, in accessories, Gucci, have been among their customers. About half the valley's output is subcontracted from other companies.

Now the locals want to establish their own markets, particularly abroad. They feel exploited when a well-known house buys cheaply from them and sells for a big profit. Some also fear being undercut by cheaper suppliers in the Far East. The development consortium's campaign includes a Val Vibrata trade fair, a small annual trade fair at Nereto in the valley, and promotional initiatives abroad, notably in Britain, Canada, Japan and Greece.

In July, the Italian Trade Institute in London invited prospective buyers such as Hays, Debenhams, Austin Reed, Hone, with smaller companies to meetings with representatives from the valley. A common British reaction, according to one of those present, was that the British prefer cheaper quality clothing. Nevertheless, they hope to follow up the contacts in the autumn.

Why has this valley taken off economically? Historically, the local people say, the system of share cropping bred a peasant with an independent, entrepreneurial outlook.

A commercial spirit comes from the times when the valley was the northern outpost of the Bourbon kingdom of Naples, marching with the Pope's domains, and their ancestors engaged in frontier trading and smuggling. There are no large towns, and no urban proletariat, but workers come from families still linked to the land.

Clothing manufacture has developed from family loom industries, based on silk-worm breeding a century ago and known for wedding trousseaux. Leatherware is a post-war activity. Furniture making derives from carpenters who used to fashion the abruzz timber into tables. This sector faces the problem of a fall-off in orders from the Middle East, its main export market.

The authorities, keen to develop the south, support companies starting up through public bodies such as IASM (consultancy) and Italtrade (marketing).

Among the larger companies in the valley is a shirtmaker which was founded in 1975 by three workers who left a factory immobilized by a sit-in. They started with 32 workers and capital of £150m (then £33,000). Trade unions agreed to accept wages 30 per cent below the minimum of the national labour contract. The government gave a £380m soft loan and a £340m capital grant - some of which is yet to be paid.

The company now has 120 workers, and seven partners own the business which has a daily output of between 1,400 and 1,500 shirts.

Another of the larger businesses is a furniture maker founded by three workers who broke away from a company in the area. It has recently opened a third plant at a cost of £5 billion, bringing the workforce to 135. Group annual turnover is £30 billion. About 45 per cent of output is exported, mainly to the Middle East. Now the company plans to abolish stockholding with the help of a computer.

The main spirit behind the

valley's development consortium, and first president, is Signor Angelini, aged 55, a Communist who set up a small knitwear company 22 years ago. After the first oil shock in 1973, he says, the interest charged him by the local savings bank shot up from 4.75 to 18 per cent. This, in defence, set him on the path of getting businesses to work together.

He laughs when asked if it is not a contradiction that he, as a Communist, should have his own company and promote capitalism in the valley, saying: "Italy is the land of contradictions."

This was just the criticism of a visiting Soviet delegation but, he points out, what he is doing is not so different from what is being done in Hungary and China. He concludes: "The main point is that one should move towards a society which is more just."

TELEVISION SERVICES INTERNATIONAL PLC

Record results for the six months to June 30th 1984

TSI is a film, television and video production and post production group currently quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market.

Results for six months to June 30th, 1984	£,000s	Increase over comparable 1983 period
Turnover	2,076	+157%
*Profits before tax	215	+87%
*Earnings per share	0.61p	
*Interim Dividend	0.1p	

*Application for full listing early 1985.
For copies of the interim statement please write to: The Company Secretary, Television Services International, 9 Grape Street, London WC2H 9DR.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

● **LEYS FOUNDRIES AND ENGINEERING:** Subsidiary of Williams Holdings. Six months to June 30, (Figures in £000). Turnover £610 (16,860). Pretax profit 297 (loss 572). Tax 10 (3). Extraordinary charges (redundancy and reorganization costs) 1,718 (1,938).

● **ES GROUP:** Six months to June 30, (Figures in £000). Turnover 22,876 (18,975). Pretax profit 2,028 (1,751). Tax 521 (281). Minorities 2 (nil). Earnings per share 8.139p (9.108p).

● **CONSOLIDATED PLANTATIONS:** Group net profit rising to £3.3m (127.5m) for year to June 30, on turnover of 316.2m (204.4m). Group profit includes extraordinary gain of 12.4m (97.9m). Final dividend 18 cents gross (8.4) payable on November 2 to shareholders receiving 91 (all) shares on takeover. Earnings per share 2.8p (2.2p). Shares 31 up 5.

● **WACE GROUP:** Six months to June 30. No interim dividend (nil) on ordinary or preferred shares. Figures in £000. Turnover 2,368 (2,060). Operating profit 213 (179). Extraordinary expenditure 27 (179). Interest payable 61 (81). Pre and post-tax profit 125 (loss 85). Extraordinary charges (redundancy) cost of rights issue. Earnings per share 2.8p (2.2p). Shares 31 up 5.

● **RICARDO CONSULTING ENGINEERS:** Final 1983 making up 2.5p for year to June 30. Figures in £000. Revenue 1,338 (1,088). Operating profit, 151 (147). Pretax profit, 150 (146) including interest received 119 (139). Extraordinary dividend 91 (nil) deferred tax provision arising as a result of the changes in tax legislation. Earnings per share 7.1p (8.1p) adjusted. Shares unchanged a 30.

● **F. COPSON:** Dividend 1.5p (same) for year to April 30. Group turnover £6,559m (£6,858m), excluding vat and inter-company sales. Pretax profit £190,280 (£189,736). Tax £43,195 (£48,203). Minority £3,251 (£4,667). Earnings per share 4p (3.52p). Shares unchanged a 30.

Jardine names new director

Jardine, Matheson and Co. Mr. Rodney Leach has joined the board. He is chairman of Jardine Insurance Broking Group and Matheson Trust Co and a director of various other group companies.

Good Relations Group: Mr. Kenneth Andrew has been made chief executive of Good Relations City and a member of the group board.

Ladies Pride: Mr. Norman Selsdon has been appointed a director. Mr. John van Wyenbergh has resigned his directorship.

Henlys: Mr. Michael E. Doherty has become a director and Messrs. C. Brown, J. C. M. Greig, E. R. Hazekamp, R. W. Hele, and P. J. Hughes, non-executive directors, have resigned.

Taylor Woodrow International: Mr. Walter Hogbin has been made deputy chairman in addition to his duties as managing director.

Royal Bank of Scotland: Mr. A. George Pollard, an executive director with Williams & Glyn's Bank, has been made a director. Northern Telecom: Mr.

Robert J. Richardson has joined the board.

Bath and Portland Group: Mr. A. Patrick Hall has been appointed to the board as chief executive of its construction division, in which capacity he will be responsible for the building, property development and building products activities within the group.

Massy-Ferguson: Mr. William A. Corbett has been made a director.

Salter Housewares: Mr. John Hampton has become managing director, taking over from Mr. Ron Newlan, who becomes chairman and assumes responsibility for Allstar GmbH in Germany.

John Menzies: Mr. C. B. Lancelotti has been appointed deputy chairman. Mr. T. P. Callaghan becomes managing director in succession to Mr. Douglas MacDonald who has accepted an appointment in Switzerland and resigned from the board.

Alexander Howden Underwriting: Mr. Nigel Robson has been made chairman. He succeeds Mr. John A. Bogardus,

chairman and CEO Alexander & Alexander Services Inc. - parent company of the Howden Group.

Arthur Andersen & Co. Management Consultants: Mr. David Andrews and Mr. Nigel Backwith have been admitted into partnership.

Russell Reynolds Associates: Mr. Robert Dix, Mr. David Henderson, Mr. Michael Lehmann and Mr. Alan Wintow become directors.

IMI Bailey Birkett: Mr. Stephen N. Rowley has been appointed technical director.

The Baldwin Group: Mr. Philip Barber becomes financial director.

UKF Fertilisers: Mr. Gerrit van Ling has taken over as managing director. He succeeds Mr. William van Asselt who becomes the commercial director of the UKF Group based in Utrecht, Holland.

James Finlay: Mr. A. S. Mortimer has been appointed a non-executive director. Mr. Mortimer remains managing director of H. K. Lock & Company (Holdings).

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES Trinidad and Tobago - Central Tenders Board

1. Proposals are invited for the provision of Consultancy Services relating to proposed Administrative Improvement Programme for the Computerization of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Immigration Division, Ministry of National Security and the Customs and Excise Division, Ministry of Finance and Planning of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

2. The scope of service includes the following:-
(a) An Application Systems Development exercise consisting of five (5) components.
(b) Training of Staff.
(c) Identification of Hardware and Software etc.

Fees must be expressed as a lump-sum figure with a detailed breakdown, where appropriate. Separate fees must be submitted for each Project.

3. Briefs can be collected from the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, 42 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NT. Telephone: 01-245 9351.

Clarification with respect to technical Aspects of the Project can be obtained from Director, National Computer Agency, 4 Edward Street, Port of Spain, Trinidad. Telephone: 62-59181.

4. Firms, if successful, will be required to provide the following additional documents:-

(a) The Certificate of Incorporation of the Company accompanied by its Articles and Memorandum of Association.
(b) A Power of Attorney registered in Trinidad and Tobago authorizing its Attorney or Agent to act on behalf of the Company in matters ancillary to the formation of a binding contract.

5. The successful firm will be required to enter into a formal Agreement with the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

6. Eight (8) Proposals and Fee Structures for Each Project are required to be submitted, in separate sealed envelopes, addressed to the Director of Contracts, Central Tenders Board, c/o High Commissioner of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, 42 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NT, and marked on the outside: "Consultancy - Administrative Improvement Programme, Ministry of Finance and Planning."

7. All proposals must be submitted not later than 12.00 o'clock (noon) on 20th September 1984. The Central Tenders Board does not bind itself to accept any proposal.

1984/85	1983/84	1982/83	1981/82	1980/81	1979/80	1978/79	1977/78	1976/77	1975/76	1974/75	1973/74	1972/73	1971/72	1970/71	1969/70	1968/69	1967/68	1966/67	1965/66	1964/65	1963/64	1962/63	1961/62	1960/61	1959/60	1958/59	1957/58	1956/57	1955/56	1954/55	1953/54	1952/53	1951/52	1950/51	1949/50	1948/49	1947/48	1946/47	1945/46	1944/45	1943/44	1942/43	1941/42	1940/41	1939/40	1938/39	1937/38	1936/37	1935/36	1934/35	1933/34	1932/33	1931/32	1930/31	1929/30	1928/29	1927/28	1926/27	1925/26	1924/25	1923/24	1922/23	1921/22	1920/21	1919/20	1918/19	1917/18	1916/17	1915/16	1914/15	1913/14	1912/13	1911/12	1910/11	1909/10	1908/09	1907/08	1906/07	1905/06	1904/05	1903/04	1902/03	1901/02	1900/01	1899/00	1898/99	1897/98	1896/97	1895/96	1894/95	1893/94	1892/93	1891/92	1890/91	1889/90	1888/89	1887/88	1886/87	1885/86	1884/85	1883/84	1882/83	1881/82	1880/81	1879/80	1878/79	1877/78	1876/77	1875/76	1874/75	1873/74	1872/73	1871/72	1870/71	1869/70	1868/69	1867/68	1866/67	1865/66	1864/65	1863/64	1862/63	1861/62	1860/61	1859/60	1858/59	1857/58	1856/57	1855/56	1854/55	1853/54	1852/53	1851/52	1850/51	1849/50	1848/49	1847/48	1846/47	1845/46	1844/45	1843/44	1842/43	1841/42	1840/41	1839/40	1838/39	1837/38	1836/37	1835/36	1834/35	1833/34	1832/33	1831/32	1830/31	1829/30	1828/29	1827/28	1826/27	1825/26	1824/25	1823/24	1822/23	1821/22	1820/21	1819/20	1818/19	1817/18	1816/17	1815/16	1814/15	1813/14	1812/13	1811/12	1810/11	1809/10	1808/09	1807/08	1806/07	1805/06	1804/05	1803/04	1802/03	1801/02	1800/01	1799/00	1798/99	1797/98	1796/97	1795/96	1794/95	1793/94	1792/93	1791/92	1790/91	1789/90	1788/89	1787/88	1786/87	1785/86	1784/85	1783/84	1782/83	1781/82	1780/81	1779/80	1778/79	1777/78	1776/77	1775/76	1774/75	1773/74	1772/73	1771/72	1770/71	1769/70	1768/69	1767/68	1766/67	1765/66	1764/65	1763/64	1762/63	1761/62	1760/61	1759/60	1758/59	1757/58	1756/57	1755/56	1754/55	1753/54	1752/53	1751/52	1750/51	1749/50	1748/49	1747/48	1746/47	1745/46	1744/45	1743/44	1742/43	1741/42	1740/41	1739/40	1738/39	1737/38	1736/37	1735/36	1734/35	1733/34	1732/33	1731/32	1730/31	1729/30	1728/29	1727/28	1726/27	1725/26	1724/25	1723/24	1722/23	1721/22	1720/21	1719/20	1718/19	1717/18	1716/17	1715/16	1714/15	1713/14	1712/13	1711/12	1710/11	1709/10	1708/09	1707/08	1706/07	1705/06	1704/05	1703/04	1702/03	1701/02	1700/01	1699/00	1698/99	1697/98	1696/97	1695/96	1694/95	1693/94	1692/93	1691/92	1690/91	1689/90	1688/89	1687/88	1686/87	1685/86	1684/85	1683/84	1682/83	1681/82	1680/81	1679/80	1678/79	1677/78	1676/77	1675/76	1674/75	1673/74	1672/73	1671/72	1670/71	1669/70	1668/69	1667/68	1666/67	1665/66	1664/65	1663/64	1662/63	1661/62	1660/61	1659/60	1658/59	1657/58	1656/57	1655/56	1654/55	1653/54	1652/53	1651/52	1650/51	1649/50	1648/49	1647/48	1646/47	1645/46	1644/45	1643/44	1642/43	1641/42	1640/41	1639/40	1638/39	1637/38	1636/37	1635/36	1634/35	1633/34	1632/33	1631/32	1630/31	1629/30	1628/29	1627/28	1626/27	1625/26	1624/25	1623/24	1622/23	1621/22	1620/21	1619/20	1618/19	1617/18	1616/17	1615/16	1614/15	1613/14	1612/13	1611/12	1610/11	1609/10	1608/09	1607/08	1606/07	1605/06	1604/05	1603/04	1602/03	1601/02	1600/01	1599/00	1598/99	1597/98	1596/97	1595/96	1594/95	1593/94	1592/93	1591/92	1590/91	1589/90	1588/89	1587/88	1586/87	1585/86	1584/85	1583/84	1582/83	1581/82	1580/81	1579/80	1578/79	1577/78	1576/77	1575/76	1574/75	1573/74	1572/73	1571/72	1570/71	1569/70	1568/69	1567/68	1566/67	1565/66	1564/65	1563/64	1562/63	1561/62	1560/61	1559/60	1558/59	1557/58	1556/57	1555/56	1554/55	1553/54	1552/53	1551/52	1550/51	1549/50	1548/49	1547/48	1546/47	1545/46	1544/45	1543/44	1542/43	1541/42	1540/41	1539/40	1538/39	1537/38	1536/37	1535/36	1534/35	1533/34	1532/33	1531/32	1530/31	1529/30	1528/29	1527/28	1526/27	1525/26	1524/25	1523/24	1522/23	1521/22	1520/21	1519/20	1518/19	1517/18	1516/17	1515/16	1514/15	1513/14	1512/13	1511/12	1510/11	1509/10	1508/09	1507/08	1506/07	1505/06	1504/05	1503/04	1502/03	1501/02	1500/01	1499/00	1498/99	1497/98	1496/97	1495/96	1494/95	1493/94	1492/93	1491/92	1490/91	1489/90	1488/89	1487/88	1486/87	1485/86	1484/85	1483/84	1482/83	1481/82	1480/81	1479/80	1478/79	1477/78	1476/77	1475/76	1474/75	1473/74	1472/73	1471/72	1470/71	1469/70	1468/69	1467/68	1466/67	1465/66	1464/65	1463/64	1462/63	1461/62	1460/61	1459/60	1458/59	1457/58	1456/57	1455/56	1454/55	1453/54	1452/53	1451/52	1450/51	1449/50	1448/49	1447/48	1446/47	1445/46	1444/45	1443/44	1442/43	1441/42	1440/41	1439/40	1438/39	1437/38	1436/37	1435/36	1434/35	1433/34	1432/33	1431/32	1430/31	1429/30	1428/29	1427/28	1426/27	1425/26	1424/25	1423/24	1422/23	1421/22	1420/21	1419/20	1418/19	1417/18	1416/17	1415/16	1414/15	1413/14	1412/13	1411/12	1410/11	1409/10	1408/09	1407/08	1406/07	1405/06	1404/05	1403/04	1402/03	1401/02	1400/01	1399/00	1398/99	1397/98	1396/97	1395/96	1394/95	1393/94	1392/93	1391/92	1390/91	1389/90	1388/89	1387/88	1386/87	1385/86	1384/85	1383/84	1382/83	1381/82	1380/81	1379/80	1378/79	1377/78	1376/77	1375/76	1374/75	1373/74	1372/73	1371/72	1370/71	1369/70	1368/69	1367/68	1366/67	1365/66	1364/65	1363/64	1362/63	1361/62	1360/61	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Public Appointments

NCVO: National Council for Voluntary Organisations

Director

London-Based

Nicholas Hinton is leaving after seven years' service and the National Council is therefore seeking a new Director.

NCVO is an independent charity, furthering the policies, interests and competence of the voluntary sector. Its Director heads a variously-specialist staff of 150, and is accountable for policy initiatives and their implementation. The job requires senior management experience and personal effectiveness in an unusually wide range of direct relationships which include the voluntary sector, government and industry and represents a rare opportunity to influence values and results in the field of social policy, practice and provision.

The person appointed will certainly have shown commitment to the voluntary sector, but may well have gained the requisite managerial, representative and negotiating experience through employment in other sectors.

It is likely that the successful candidate will be under 55. The salary range is £21,263 to £25,335, but is negotiable. Contributory pension scheme.

For full details please write to The Chairman (DI), NCVO, 26 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3HU.

Closing date for applications 5 October 1984.

NCVO is an equal opportunities employer.

City of Manchester

Town Clerk's Department
Legal and Parliamentary Section

Assistant Solicitor (Airport)

(£13,395/£14,709) Pay Award Pending.

Manchester International Airport, managed by a Joint Committee of Greater Manchester Council and Manchester City Council, known as the Manchester International Airport Authority, is the third largest airport in the Country in terms of passengers carried and has been designated as a Category A Gateway International Airport. A programme of development and expansion of the Airport is currently being undertaken by the Airport Authority.

As holder of this new post you will be required to advise the Airport Authority upon the whole range of aviation matters and also upon the complex contractual and commercial aspects of the Airport's operation.

You should be an energetic Solicitor, preferably with two or three years' experience of commercial and contractual matters, who is willing to join with a small team of professional Officers engaged in the management development and expansion of the Airport. Salary negotiable within the range according to qualifications and experience.

The City Council operates a Union Membership agreement under which a new employee is required to become a member of a recognised Union.

Applications, by letter, stating qualifications, present and ALL previous appointments, together with the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to the Staff Officer, Town Clerk's Department, Town Hall, Manchester, M60 2LA, to be received not later than 21st September, 1984.

An Equal Opportunities Employer

NON-SECRETARIAL

MAYFAIR

Leading firm of Estate Agents require an organised person to act as Assistant/Negotiator in busy Furnished Letting Department. Enthusiasm and ability to deal with people essential. Also typing and driving licence required. Age 22+.

CHESTER TONS
47 South Audley Street,
London W1Y 5DG
Tel: 01-429 4513
(100 Agents)

DUFF & TROTTER require enthusiastic, energetic, and motivated individuals to join their City office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the staff, the preparation of the accounts, and the handling of the correspondence. The successful candidate will also be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the staff, the preparation of the accounts, and the handling of the correspondence.

PART TIME VACANCIES

PART TIME 4 DAYS. Changing secretarial duties. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the staff, the preparation of the accounts, and the handling of the correspondence. The successful candidate will also be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the staff, the preparation of the accounts, and the handling of the correspondence.

AFTERNOONS ONLY. Knowledgeable and enthusiastic individuals to join our team. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the staff, the preparation of the accounts, and the handling of the correspondence. The successful candidate will also be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including the management of the staff, the preparation of the accounts, and the handling of the correspondence.

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Finance Officer

NATIONAL CONSUMER COUNCIL

The NCC is funded by the Department of Trade & Industry to watch over the interests of consumers and to represent them to government, nationalised industry and public and private sector industry and commerce.

The Finance Officer will be responsible to the Head of Administration for the financial administration of the grant-in-aid to the NCC and the three country councils. With the help of an Accounts Clerk, he/she will be responsible for all day-to-day accounting procedures, payment of salaries, preparation of estimates and other budgetary information required by Management.

In addition to good basic educational qualifications the successful applicant must have some formal training in accountancy and/or relevant work experience. An appreciation of government funding and departmental procedures would be a great advantage.

Starting salary £7,592 rising to £9,338 including London weighting of £1,250 subject to backdated increase with effect from 1 April 1984. Terms and conditions of employment are comparable with the civil service.

Please write for job description and application form from Sharon Hancock, Secretary in Administration Group, NCC, 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1. Completed forms must be received at NCC by Monday 17 September.

Sussex Rural Community Council

DIRECTOR

Applications are invited by 1st October 1984 for the post of Director of the Sussex Rural Community Council, which provides a focus for voluntary organisations concerned with the prosperity, welfare and environment of rural communities in East and West Sussex.

The Director is expected to be able to work with voluntary and statutory bodies at all local and, when appropriate, national levels. An ability to inspire self-help among rural communities is an essential requirement. Knowledge of the Sussex scene will also be valuable.

Salary scale: £8,722-£11,454 per annum. Non-contributory pension scheme. Appointment to date from 1st April 1985. Further details from the Chairman, Sussex Rural Community Council, Sussex House, 212 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex. BN7 2NH.

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MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering or equivalent. 10 years related experience. Basic functions: Plans, coordinates, supervises and controls the provision of all maintenance services and facilities at the Refinery. Includes maintenance planning and coordination; electrical and instrumentation repair and installation; mechanical and fixed equipment maintenance, overhaul and servicing; and the fabrication and installation of pipes; and other metal tooling and craft work, for all plant rotary and fixed equipment located in the processing area, power and utilities area, offsite area, at the loading terminals, in the workshop and at the production laboratory. SR. No. 2.

ENGINEERING SUPERINTENDENT. Minimum requirements: Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering or equivalent. 10 years related experience. Basic functions: Plans, coordinates, supervises and controls the provision of Engineer Services at the Refinery/Gas Plant. Includes inspection and cathodic protection; electrical and instrumentation repair and installation; mechanical and pipeline maintenance, overhaul and servicing; and the fabrication and installation of pipes, piping and other metal tooling and craft work. SR. No. 3.

SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR. Minimum requirements: B.Sc. in Mechanical or Chemical Engineering or equivalent. 10 years related experience. Basic functions: Ensure that operating units maintain the required industrial safety, occupational health and loss prevention standards. Promotes the establishment of safe work practices throughout the HPD Sector. Controls, guides and monitors operating activities by means of, appropriate occupational health and safety rules and regulations, standing orders, procedures, training programmes, etc. Inspects and audits the safety practices in applications and recommends to local unit management the shut-down or supervision of any unsafe operation which may endanger life. SR. No. 4.

PROCUREMENT SUPERINTENDENT. Minimum requirements: Degree in Business Economics or equivalent. 10-15 years related experience. Basic functions: Responsible for the complete control of procurement activities including Purchasing, Expediting, Traffic and Shipping of Engineering materials and spare parts initially on behalf of the operating entities of the H.P. Directorate, provides guidance and direction of all procurement personnel assigned to the Department ensuring H.P.D. Procurement Policies are strictly observed. SR. No. 5.

CODIFICATION ENGINEER. Minimum requirements: B.Sc. Engineering. 5 years related experience. Basic functions: Develop and maintain the local MESC catalogue according to MESC system. Participate to ensure that coding is up-to-date and to revise, update and issue the revised version of MESC local catalogue. Initiate proposals for standardisation and rationalization of Engineering Materials. SR. No. 6.

ASST. CONTRACTS ENGINEER. Minimum requirements: Degree in Engineering or equivalent. 5 years related experience. Basic functions: Provides assistance to Contracts Engineers. Assists in carrying out procedures for development and evaluation of contracts and service agreement for operating units and divisions. Also assesses the quantities and compiles the B.O.Q. in participation with the Originator. SR. No. 7.

PLANNING ENGINEER. Minimum requirements: B.Sc. in Natural Science or Chemical Engineering. 5 years related experience. Basic functions: Participate in the periodic development of integrated running plans programmes for implementation by the Division's refineries. To work closely with the ADNOC training and supply function and refineries on all refined product qualities matters. To analyse and assess various innovations, technical trends, modifications, and Government Environmental Regulations on a wide range of products. SR. No. 8.

PLANNING & PREPARATION SECTION HEAD. Minimum requirements: B.Sc. in Mechanical or Electrical or Civil Engineering. 8 years related experience. Basic functions: Manage overall maintenance planning and preparation section activities. Plans, coordinates and schedules major works plan, especially turn-arounds. Assist in preparing preventive maintenance programme and day to day scheduling. Determine scope of work to be contracted and follow up contractor work progress and performance, assist in preparation of maintenance budget and cost analysis & monitors for all statistics and reports. SR. No. 9.

MECH. MAIN. SECTION HEAD. Minimum requirements: B.Sc. Degree in Mechanical Engineering. 10 years related experience. Basic functions: Directs, coordinates, controls and supervises the overall activities of Mechanical Maintenance Section in the Refinery. Includes the supervision of mechanical shops and coordination between mechanical and other Engineering crafts in the maintenance department to ensure smooth operation of maintenance activities. Also includes maintenance and performance monitoring of rotating equipment. SR. No. 10.

Hand written applications containing full details of applicant i.e.: full name, address, nationality, in addition to related testimonials and two photographs, quoting reference No., are to be addressed to:

H.P. Director
Hydrocarbon Processing Directorate
ADNOC
P.O. Box 3593
Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates



Applications to be sent within two weeks from date of advertisement

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General Appointments

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Hardware Engineers to £13K
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Hardware Engineers are required to work on tests embracing the derivation of operational integration and test requirements from systems and sub-system design specifications. Also test methods and test equipment. Responsibilities would include:

designing test aids, production of test procedures and computer software for implementation of the test programmes. Also these would be involved in the production of test equipment and performance testing of the spacecraft at every stage up to launch, analysis and reporting test performance data throughout.

Candidates must have experience in at least one of the following areas: ALL electrical testing techniques, digital techniques, signal coding/modulation techniques, computer systems (including software), control systems, RF and microwave systems, power regulation techniques, leading teams of specialist engineers.

Systems Engineers to £12.5K
(Electrical Ground Support Equipment)

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much higher.**

Qualifications - BS/PHD
MSc in Electronics or Electrical Engineering or Physics. Ref: T2822-34.

A Mechanical Engineer is also required to carry out similar duties. Background must embrace one or more of the following: instrumentation and measurement techniques, optical measurement techniques, environmental testing of lightweight structures, liquid and solid propulsion systems, thermal testing techniques, application of thermal analysis, experience of leading teams of specialist engineers would also be an asset.

Qualifications - BS/PHD/MSc in Mechanical Engineering or Physics. Ref: T2820-34.

While the technology is undoubtedly high level, the package our client offers is rock-solid and down to earth. Negotiable salaries are supported by comprehensive benefits and exceptional prospects. If it's these you're looking for, please contact a Space and Communications career, the countdown starts by telephoning or writing (including a CV), quoting appropriate reference number to:

An Operations & Maintenance Engineer is needed to participate in the design/development of spacecraft EGSE systems, produce operation and maintenance documentation and plan logistics. Ref: T2820-34.

Both roles involve extensive liaison with hardware and software engineers during procurement, monitoring detailed design/procurement of subsystems, monitoring system integration acceptance and initial operation, check-out operations to second level system commissioning, assisting ALL Engineers in the development of the check-out techniques, and routine ALL department tests. Candidates must have experience in at least one of the following disciplines: electrical check-out systems, electrical testing techniques, digital techniques, signal coding/modulation techniques, computer systems (including software), control systems, RF and microwave systems, power regulation techniques, leading teams of specialist engineers.

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We seek a qualified Electrical Engineer, 40-50, ideally having experience in the management of a company manufacturing electrical panel boards and switch boards, or alternatively in a related technical sphere. First hand knowledge of Saudi Arabia and the language would be an advantage. You will be responsible for the day to day management and control of the business in all its aspects including manufacture, sales and finance.

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We are looking for a person aged between 35-50 who will ideally have general management experience and be used to negotiating with the DMB and have a marketing background. The appointed person must be energetic and used to working within well-defined policies and procedures to strict reporting deadlines.

There will be opportunity for future career development within our diverse and successful public group. In addition to the salary and benefits quoted, there is an excellent sick-pay/continuity pension scheme, free family private medical cover and assistance with relocation expenses to the Northampton area.

Please write or telephone for an application form to: Mr J.P.R. Meachy, Divisional Personnel Executive, LRC Industrial Holdings Ltd, Thames Road, Crayford, Kent DA1 4SB. Tel. Crayford (0332) 98131 ext. 203.

Working within well-defined policies and procedures to strict reporting deadlines.

There will be opportunity for future career development within our diverse and successful public group. In addition to the salary and benefits quoted, there is an excellent sick-pay/continuity pension scheme, free family private medical cover and assistance with relocation expenses to the Northampton area.

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Working within well-defined policies and procedures to strict reporting deadlines.

The Countryside Commission for Scotland Director

The Director of the Countryside Commission for Scotland is due to retire in August 1985 and we have been asked to assist the Chairman and the Commissioners in the task of appointing a successor. The Commission is established under Act of Parliament to encourage a balanced and sensitive approach to the conservation and enjoyment of Scotland's beautiful and varied countryside. To achieve this end it is frequently called upon to advise the Secretary of State and local authorities on specific development proposals. The Commission has at its disposal funds to support conservation projects and recreational developments and has a significant educational role to fulfil. The Commission is supported by a full-time staff at its headquarters at Battleby, just north of Perth, and the Director is in charge of this establishment. Candidates for this appointment must have a strong underlying knowledge of the countryside and ideally will have had professional experience in the management of natural resources. They must also have demonstrated managerial ability and have the leadership qualities and judgement that will command the respect of a dedicated and highly professional staff. Applications should be sent in strict confidence to Andrew Rait, as adviser to the Commissioners, at Selection Thomson Ltd., 15 North Claremont Street, Glasgow G3 7NR.

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As part of its aim to ensure an adequate supply of professionally qualified computing practitioners with the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to provide a wide variety of services for employers and clients, the British Computer Society is seeking to appoint a Professional Development Officer.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the implementation and administration of the Society's new Professional Development Scheme under the guidance of a Management Committee.

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An attractive salary will be offered depending on the relevance and extent of previous experience.

Further details and an application form are available from:
Mrs I F MacGregor
Personnel Officer
The British Computer Society
13 Mansfield Street
LONDON W1 M 0BP

Director

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This appointment will be particularly attractive to senior managers at present working either in a similar organisation (ideally in the construction, steel or engineering industries) who wish to take on the top job in an active and forward looking association or, alternatively, they may currently be working in industry; the latter will be at or near Board level, marketing oriented and almost certainly active in the affairs of their own association.

BCSA was founded in 1936, has about 80 members and is soundly financed. Its ongoing and developing contractual, commercial and technical services are highly valued.

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DIRECTOR

Electricity Consumers' Council
£23,073 - £24,843

The Electricity Consumers' Council is an independent statutory body financed by Government. It advises the Electricity Council and H.M. Government on policy matters affecting all types of electricity users in England and Wales.

The Director is the Council's chief executive officer. He/she directs the Council's own staff; oversees the work of external consultants; negotiates with senior members of the electricity supply industry, government departments and others and represents the Council's views to the media. The Director maintains close contact with Council members and the part-time Chairman.

Candidates, who will already have made a significant contribution in their own field, are invited to obtain further particulars from the present Director.

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John Hatch (Chairman) Electricity Consumers' Council, Brook House, 2-16 Torrington Place, London WC1E 7LL
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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development
Hard bargaining for architects

When the Royal Institute of British Architects elected to relax their code of professional conduct in 1979 they set a trend which has now spread to several other professions. Until recently architects were not allowed to advertise, a prohibition which included soliciting work by sending brochures or speculative letters to potential clients.

They were also disbarred from various other types of commercial enterprise: in particular they were not permitted to form limited companies or to act as developers in their own right. In fact like many such legalistic changes the relaxation in the code only recognized a situation which had already been eroded.

"The architect must not solicit," wrote Eric Lyons, a former RIBA president, "but he can loiter with intent at the nineteenth hole". It was to prevent these rather undignified practices that the members changed the mandatory code to one which simply set gentlemanly standards of good behaviour in the way business was obtained. For instance, supplanting a fellow-architect on a job is still forbidden.

A question of negotiation

The code relaxation has occurred more or less in conjunction with another change in professional practice which has to do with the way government - and indeed consumers - are challenging some of the more cartel-like aspects of the professions. This was the abolition of mandatory fee scales, a step which most architects regard as much more significant than the freedom to market their work - though it certainly gives it added relevance.

Instead of getting a fixed minimum percentage of the contract value of the building, architects now have to negotiate fees with the client. Though clients have been quick to point out that under the old system the more costs escalated - sometimes because of mistakes made by the architect - the more architects made, the abolition of mandatory fees has been traumatic for the profession. It can be compared to the impact on solicitors of the proposed abolition of the conveyancing monopoly.

The situation is made worse because of the sharp decline in public sector work. Once the backbone of the fee income of a great many practices, it has shrunk to less than 40 per cent and architects are now exposed to some very tough bargaining by developers and others who are only too well aware that they are operating in a buyer's market.

Godfrey Golzen
on what the
changes in
fees can mean

Most architects feel that one answer to these competitive conditions is to provide the client with a wider range of services and thus to increase fee income. By offering project management - essentially taking over the contractor's role of supervising the work of subcontractors - they can charge a much higher percentage.

Ray Moxley of Moxley, Jenner & Partners, a leading protagonist of what is called Alternative Methods of Management and the author of a forthcoming book on fee negotiations, says that clients also get a better deal that way.

"Contractors put in a low bid and then come up afterwards with a whole sheaf of claims which they blame on the architect. With the architect in charge the bid should also be the final cost."

The other answer to the dilemma of diminishing fees is for architects to act as developers. Some of them are now embarking down that road, but the bulk of the profession are sceptical. They feel that to take commercial responsibility for finding funds and tenants requires a skill for which they are not suited by temperament nor training, though in the legislatively simpler world of the nineteenth century architects like Nash acted as developers as well.

Training is a big problem for architects who are trying to adapt to these various changes in professional practice. "The implications of that is only one of the things that architects need to keep track of," says Peter Gibbs-Kennet, the RIBA's director of Education and Professional Development. "Apart from building technology itself, there's the whole business of computers. There are changes in legislation and there are new forms of building contract emerging like the new one produced by the Association of Consultant Architects which some people think is ideally suited to new management methods."

The schools don't have time to teach more than the use of the JCT contract, which is the one that is most widely accepted.

The trouble is that the full-length course of architecture in the 37 schools already lasts seven years. Rather than spin it out further, the RIBA, like other professional bodies, is trying to institute a programme of Continuing Professional Development: seminars, lectures and short

course offered in mid-career because it is only then that the relevance of much that has to be learned can be appreciated.

The Government is also encouraging this concept but they are not putting any money into it. "There's the rub," says Gibbs-Kennet. "Continuing Professional Development is expensive in terms of time and money to the practising architect, and it's not mandatory. Only 12 per cent - 15 per cent of the profession participate."

He sees some hope, however, in the fact that the new technology is itself making learning more flexible. Instead of architects coming to courses it may soon become economically possible to bring courses to architects through tapes and videos. "What I'd really like to see is an open university of Continuing Professional Development."

Controlling
new entrants

At the moment the RIBA is discussing with the schools of architecture how they could play a wider role in CPD. The Institute would like to stabilise the number of new entrants coming into the profession. There are already 28,000 architects in Britain and the number is expected to grow to 32,000 by 1992.

The future role of the universities and polytechnics as the RIBA would like to see it would be to provide mid-career training to improve the skills of those who are already in the profession rather than adding to the increasing number of architects who are under or un-employed.

Curiously enough, in spite of the well-publicised criticism of architects and the fact that they are poorly paid by comparison with other professions - the median salary is £13,000 - the pressure for places at architectural schools remains strong. Last year numbers grew by 7 per cent, which Gibbs-Kennet thinks reflects a greater public awareness of the built environment and one of the RIBA's missions at present is to find some way of incorporating that in the school curriculum.

This, they feel, is a more rewarding approach than the other solution that has been suggested, of making the university course in architecture a non-vocational one.

"We would like to make more people look intelligently at the buildings architects are providing for them," says Gibbs-Kennet. "Good architecture comes about by public demand as much as anything else."

Godfrey Golzen is the author of *How Architects Get Work* (ABPG/The Architectural Press: £8.95 paperback).

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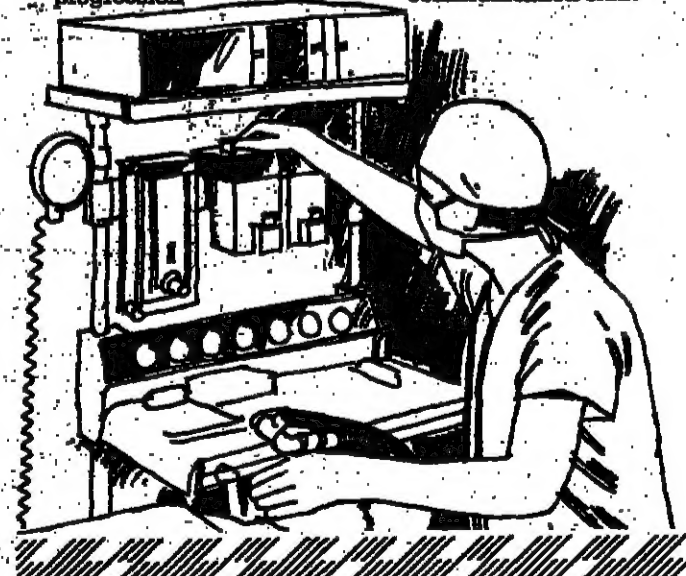
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HART RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS

01-741 5301 (8 lines), Telex: 8956740
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WIMBORNE, Dorset

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CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FLAT SHARING

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC

- 6.00 **Coastal AM**.
- 6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; horoscopes at 8.30; medical advice and culinary tips between 8.30 and 8.55.
- 9.00 **MacLeod**. American. Donny MacLeod at a country road western festival in Nashville, Tennessee (r).
- 9.20 **Trades Union Congress 1984**. Coverage of the morning's debates at Brighton from Vincent Hanna and Lord Bough and Selina Scott. News from Debbie Rix at 9.30, 10.00, 10.30 and 11.00. Further coverage of the morning's proceedings. 12.45 **Coastal**.
- 1.00 **News After Noon** with Maura Stuart and Sandra Marshall. The weather prospects come from Ian McCaskill. 1.27 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.30 **Postman Pat** (r).
- 1.45 **Nancy Mitford**. Profile of the novelist (r).
- 2.50 **Horsemanship** (1947) starring Shirley Temple. Romantic comedy about a young woman from Minnesota who arrives in Mexico City to look for her corporate father. Directed by William Keighly. 4.00 **Divisions**. 4.08 **Regional News** (not London).
- 4.10 **Play School**, presented by Sheelagh Gilbey. 4.25 **The Amazing Adventures of Baron Munchausen**. A whimsical film and its friends. Episode 28 of the 28-part series based on the novels by Mark Twain (r).
- 4.55 **Newsworld**. 5.00 **Bellamy's Backyard**. David Bellamy continues his slug's eye view safari through a British back garden (r). (Coastal titles page 170).
- 5.30 **Grange Hill**. Part one of a repeat showing of the 18-episode serial (Coastal titles page 170). 5.58 **Weather**.
- 6.00 **News with Sue Lawley** and Nicholas Witchell.
- 6.30 **London Plus**.
- 6.55 **Top of the Pops** introduced by John Peel and Janice Long.
- 7.25 **Allo! Allo!** Comedy starring Gordon Kaye as Fien, a German helping RAF men escape from occupied France (r). (Coastal titles page 170). (see Choice).
- 8.00 **The Magnificent Evans**. A new comedy series starring Ronnie Barker in the title role - a genial, photographer and man of letters. The character is a hectoring bully who makes life hell for his long-time and long-suffering fiancée, Rachel, played by Sharon Morgan. (Coastal titles page 170).
- 8.30 **The Hot Shoe Show** starring Wayne Sleep. A new series of song, dance and comedy shows begins with, among the guests, Bonnie Langford, Julian Lloyd Webber and from the Royal Ballet Bryony Brind and Ashley Page.
- 9.00 **News with Sue Lawley** and Nicholas Witchell.
- 9.25 **Bird of Prey**, by Ron Hutchinson. Richard Griffiths again stars as the reluctant hero, Henry Jay, the mild-mannered child servant (Coastal titles page 170) (see Choice).
- 10.15 **Heart of the Matter**. The first of a new series begins with a profile of the controversial Rabbi Kahane.
- 10.50 **Turns**. Jimmy Perry returns to the screen with a new series of comedy sketches. Jimmy Perry, George Robby, Lily Morris and Robb Wilton.
- 11.20 **We Got It Made**. American comedy series.
- 11.45 **News headlines and weather**.

TV-am

- 6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; horoscopes at 8.30; medical advice and culinary tips between 8.30 and 8.55.
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ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 **Thames News headlines** followed by **Business Street**. 10.30 **Black Tiger**. The Catnap Caper (r). 10.30 **Flint**. (1982) starring Laurel and Hardy who are stranded in a thunderstorm when they are accused by an amiable tiger.
- 10.55 **Mysteries, Myths and Legends of the Sea**. Stories of Killer whales and man-eating sharks. 11.20 **Once Upon a Time**. An animated history series. 11.45 **The Little Rascals** in Anniversary Trouble.
- 12.00 **Hegarty Hegarty**. George Cole reads another tale about the friendly witch, 12.10 **Moonlight and Clouds** with guest, Kenny Lynch. 12.30 **The Sullivan**.
- 1.00 **News**. 1.20 **Thames news**. 1.30 **Falcon Crest**. Julia is needed by a fellow prisoner and the prison has her that she has to pay for protection.
- 2.30 **Daytime**. Topical discussion programme presented by Sarah Kennedy. 3.00 **The High Road**. The new owner of the Estate is introduced to Jimmy. 3.25 **Thames News headlines**. 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**.
- 4.00 **Hegarty Hegarty**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **The Womans** (r). 4.20 **Video and Clips**. Programme four of a six-part series about high technology for young people. 4.45 **Starliner** with pupils from Temple Cowley School. 4.55 **Starliner** with pupils from Temple Cowley School and Park Middle School. 5.00 **Stoke-on-Trent**.
- 5.15 **Blockbusters**. Bob Holness with another edition of the general knowledge quiz for 16 to 18-year-olds.
- 5.45 **News**. 5.50 **Thames news**.
- 6.25 **Thames Sport** presented by Steve Rider who reports from St Albans on the first round of the Panasonic European Open Golf Championship.
- 6.50 **Knight Rider**. A new series begins with the invincible talking car, KITT, being threatened by a similar truck driven by the evil Garth, an escaped prisoner who is out to settle an old score with Michael Knight.
- 8.30 **Duty Free**. A return of the comedy series about two couples on a package holiday in Spain starts with David Bower, played by the other three. (Oracle titles page 170).
- 8.50 **Jim Davidson's Special**. Comedy and music from the Cockney comedian and guests.
- 10.00 **News**.
- 10.15 **Hill Street Blues**. Belker, upset by the death of an old but amiable adversary, joins fellow officers undercover at a major drug emporium, while Lucy Bates begins to feel lonely after her promotion.
- 11.30 **The Panasonic European Open Golf Championship**. Highlights of the first round from the Panasonic European Open Course, introduced by Steve Rider. The commentators are John Jacobs and Rendon Laidlaw.
- 12.15 **Night Thoughts**.



Celia Bannerman in the film Biddy (Channel 4, 9.30pm)

● **BIDDY** (Channel 4, 9.30pm). Christine Ebersole's hypnotic film about a Victorian housemaid who survives the passing of decades in the same household deals with a rare kind of drudgery: servility without resentment, and carrying of the heaviest of workloads with the lightest of hearts. These days, Biddy would be dubbed a workaholic. Her obsession with orderliness almost gives her the appearance of a simpleton. She is shown to have no existence beyond ironing, sewing, and embroidering, tailoring nannies to her young charges, and quoting from Shakespeare and Shakespeare. I have called the film hypnotic. Perhaps trance-like might be more accurate. The voice thoughts are hushed: sometimes they do not seem even to be coming from the same world that the speakers inhabit. The camera slowly glides

CHOICE

along in slithered feet. There is no artificial light. We never venture into the outside world; indeed, there does not seem to be an outside world. Biddy is not only a film of much visual beauty and a microscopically detailed evocation of a vanished domestic lifestyle. It is faintly unnerving, too.

● **BIRD OF PREY**: 2 (BBC 1, 9.25pm) has a perfectly comprehensible opening titles sequence: a computer game in which a fox gobble up every farmyard animal in sight except a fleeing piglet. Telling the piglet to be the party civil servant Henry Jay (again played by Richard Griffiths), we can safely assume that Jay is still the principal target of a multinational crime syndicate engaged in

computer fraud. So far, so clear. Thereafter, I'm afraid I lost contact with the high-tech plot, and the complexities of *Bird of Prey*. 2. It is evident that Jay is having mother-in-law trouble, and that, despite what they say about him, he is far from being just a meat-and-two-veg husband.

● **ALLO, ALLO** (BBC 1, 7.25pm), the new comedy series about a wartime French café that is used by the Resistance to help smuggle British soldiers back home, begins tomorrow night. Tonight's instalment is a scene-stealer, first seen last October. It has a Nazi officer stuffing a cuckoo-clock down his trousers, and British soldiers get to look like orlon men. And it is far funnier than I have made it sound.

Peter Daville

TONIGHT'S PROM

7.30 Dvorak's *Symphonic Poem: The Nocturnal*. With Martin Armstrong's Piano. Concerto No. 2. Royal Philharmonic Orchestra; conductor, Walter Weller. Soloist: Krystian Zimerman (piano). Radio 3.

Radio 3

8.55 **Weather**. 7.00 **News**.

8.55 **Morning Concert**: Rossini's overture to *Signor Bruschino*; Brahms's Two songs with Violin. Op 51 (Faguet/Domes/McCormick); Prokofiev's (arr. Barak) Violins Fugues; Milhaud's La boule sur le toit (Kremer, violin). 8.00 **News**.

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London cleanup after fire spreads asbestos

An emergency cleanup operation is under way after a factory blaze showered an extensive area of north and west London with potentially dangerous asbestos.

One hundred and twenty asbestos removal specialists have been contracted to vacuum up asbestos fall-out from the borough of Brent. Priority is being given to schools, nurseries and play areas.

Also, 60,000 residents have been warned by leaflet not to touch the material.

The blaze, at the Claremont industrial estate in Cricklewood, north-west London, on August 24, the biggest in London for 15 years, needed 200 firemen to bring it under control.

The main damage was to a bonded warehouse belonging to McGregor Cory, which contained an estimated 24m of spirits. Two adjoining warehouses containing tea, coffee, clothing, and electrical items, were also damaged.

At the time no danger from asbestos fall-out was known.

But five days later urgent action was taken after a Brent council asbestos specialist identified charred material on a housing estate.

A small team of council workers moved into the area, three miles from the fire to clean up.

On August 30 warning leaflets in English, Urdu and Gujarati were circulated to 250 households on the council estate in Gladstone Park, Brent.

A 24-hour emergency help line was set up in the borough. Since then 500 calls have been received from residents finding flakes of asbestos in homes and gardens.

The council's health and safety advisor, Mr Ron Dalziel, who is heading the operation, predicted last night that it would take at least another two weeks to clear the area. A total of 170 sacks of asbestos, about 1.5 tons, have been recovered from the contaminated area in Brent.

One problem is that cleared areas are recontaminated by gusts of wind blowing dust from trees and rooftops.

Burning flakes of asbestos were carried 200 feet into the air. The wind, which at first was blowing south-easterly and northerly, then started to swirl at seven knots.

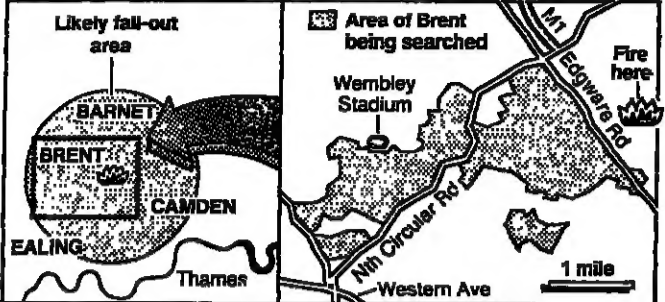
Experts fear a much larger area than the five square miles of Brent has been contaminated.

Charred flakes of asbestos have been found in the neighbouring boroughs of Barnet, where the fire started, Camden, Harrow and Ealing.

Local health and safety



Children watching asbestos removal contractors at Easley Primary School, Brent, yesterday (Photograph: Murray Job)



officers are taking advice from the Brent team.

Firemen who dealt with the blaze have identified the asbestos from roof linings in warehouses as the chrysotile, or white, type, which has been traditionally thought to be less harmful.

But, Mr Dalziel said: "The problem with asbestos is that we have no idea just how harmful it can be. But if disturbed the material produces asbestos dust fibres which have been known to cause lung cancer."

There is no known safe exposure limit to asbestos. Mr John Gummer, the Minister of State for Employment, told the Commons last year: "We must assume that a single fibre could do real damage which may not be seen for 20 years or more."

Most of the charred asbestos came from the roof linings of the warehouses. Some is also believed to have been used for wall insulation.

Chrysotile has been valued for its tensile strength as a filler, in addition to its fireproof properties.

London borough councillors are calling for a set procedure to be enforced to alert authorities if asbestos is damaged by fire.

The Cricklewood fire could also produce one of the largest insurance claims ever made in Britain. Balcombe, the loss assessors acting for the landlord, the Church Commissioners, estimate the cost at £150m.

This compares with £72.5m for the fire at a British Aerospace warehouse in Weybridge, Surrey, in 1980 and £30m for a blaze that year at Alexandra Palace.

Mulroney crushes Liberals in Canada

Continued from page 1

new Government. Mr Bordabent held his seat in Ottawa, Ontario.

Mr Turner's personal success came after polls had shown him trailing his Conservative opponent in Quadra, but a last-minute onslaught with members of his family swung the outcome. Fifteen Liberal ministers lost their seats.

After the full extent of the debacle had become known, a surprisingly buoyant Mr Turner said it was obvious that the people had wanted change - "and in a free society, the people are always right. Tomorrow I begin my task of rebuilding the Liberal Party."

Mr Mulroney told a jubilant throng packed into an ice hockey arena in his home town of Baie Comeau, Quebec: "Our mandate is clear and precise. It is to create jobs and get the economy of Canada moving."

Baie Comeau is in the

sprawling, St Lawrence-North Shore riding of Manicouagan, where Mr Mulroney, aged 43, ousted a Liberal who had won by a wide margin in 1980.

The Tory leader said his Government would try to establish a new and attractive climate for domestic and international investment in Canada. One of his constant campaign themes was that the Liberals had scared off potential investors with restrictive and nationalistic economic policies.

Mr Mulroney ended his victory speech with an appeal for unity and national reconciliation, saying that he foresaw "a new day for Quebec and a brand new day for this wonderful Canada."

Many supporters of the provincial Parti Quebecois Government which still officially advocates independence, worked for the Tories in the campaign.

Mulroney profile, page 7

Leading article, page 13

Security talks

The Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police in London and the Irish Republic's police had secret talks in Dublin last Monday.

Drug verdict

An inquest jury in Dublin yesterday returned a verdict that Mr Niall Rush died of heart failure after a drug he had been voluntarily testing interacted with another.

Teachers will fight another day

By Colin Hughes

Both sides in the teachers' pay dispute are already preparing themselves for an even longer haul into next year's negotiations after the 5.1 per cent award by arbitrators.

Union leaders, disappointed with their failure to win more than an average £9 a week more out of this year's five-month dispute, predicted that the 1985 pay round would bring more prolonged disruptive action in schools.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the 235,000-member National Union of Teachers, said that selective strikes and sanctions which hit most schools last term would probably be renewed early next year.

Employers, however, were choosing to emphasise that the teachers' best hope of improving their pay must now lie in negotiating a new salary structure.

The NUT has already laid down its marker for the coming contest. Its executive is recommending a claim for a £1,200 flat rate increase next year, which is expected to be agreed at a special delegates conference in Scarborough at the end of this month. It also wants the existing five-scale salary structure scrapped, and replaced with a single grade ranging from £6,800 to £14,000. The full claim would give teachers an extra 31 per cent over two years, and add £1,200m to the £4,128m annual salary bill.

It is certain to be unacceptable to the employers. Although anxious to restructure salaries, they want to include changes in teachers' contracts which would oblige them to go through a formal assessment performance.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has said he will attempt to persuade the Prime Minister to make more money available for a reconstructed salary deal, but only if it meets those stringent conditions.

Employers and some leaders of smaller unions are hoping that with arbitration out of the way, restructuring talks can be revived.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, yesterday said that teachers who are understandably disappointed by the arbitration award should now realize that their best hope lies in restructuring.

Letter from Felixstowe

An unhappy hunting ground for pickets

A strike placard, nailed to a length of wood was wedged amongst a pile of stones like a makeshift memorial on a new grave.

Beside it, in the early morning light on a windswept roundabout near the entrance to gate one at the Port of Felixstowe stood four pickets from Southampton Docks.

Past them, in their new cars, swept the 450 Felixstowe dockers, on their way to work on the early shift.

That was the scene yesterday at the Suffolk container port where the national dock strike appears to be dying in its feet.

Felixstowe, testifying to the rewards of private enterprise, is the largest container port in Britain, handling nearly a quarter of Britain's container movements, and is among the top 20 container ports in the world.

Inside the dock gates yesterday 20 vessels were being loaded or unloaded and 17,000 containers handled. More than 2,000 lorries swept past the picketed pickets with cargoes as varied as T-shirts, videos, televisions, engineering parts, tea, and coffee.

Work vote after reluctant strike

Reluctant participants for a week during the first dock strike this summer, all the 1,150 Felixstowe dockers bar five voted to carry on working.

That may be because in a port where with overtime £20,000 a year can be earned and membership of both BUPA and the local Conservative Association, is not uncommon, the men prefer their hard earned home comforts to taking industrial action on behalf of Arthur Scargill.

The Felixstowe dockers are reluctant publicly to discuss his decision to carry on working for fear of attracting more determined picketing from fellow members of the Transport and General Workers Union.

One man did say: "Bugger Scargill. The first strike may have been over a genuine threat to the National Dock Labour Scheme, even if we are outside it, and we were bound to uphold it. But this one has worn our patience a bit thin."

"How could anyone say it isn't blatantly political? It's nothing to do with dock work. It's just political support for the miners."

Felixstowe, where a tiny dock was first established a century ago, has grown rapidly since Mr Gordon Parker, a Norfolk grain merchant, bought it 30 years ago.

European Ferries, which owns Townsend Thoresen, bought the docks in 1976, by which time the first purpose-built container terminal in the United Kingdom had been in existence for nine years. Since the takeover, the owners have pumped £60m into the port for new machinery, quays, and two new terminals.

Prime target for militants

In October, work will begin on a further £47m investment which will bring the number of terminals to five by mid-1986.

The productivity record of the port, which overtook London as Britain's top container port in 1981, is phenomenal.

The number of containers handled has risen - from 134,103 in 1973 to 456,666 last year, and the combined exports and imports cargo from 3.4 million tonnes to 8.5 million in the same period.

Mr Geoffrey Parker, the port's chairman, who admits that Felixstowe is a prime target for TGWU militants if the strike is to succeed, said: "People say we are lucky to have such good industrial relations, but we find the harder we work at them the luckier we get."

The fine record of public relations is attributed to the fact that the TGWU alone represents the workforce, and to an open door policy under which every employer has access to senior management.

More importantly, however, the Felixstowe workers are first generation dockers who left agricultural and light engineering jobs to begin work in the docks.

None had the example of a father or grandfather who, in grimmer times, hoped his face would fit before being given a day's work.

"It's a young port, and there's no tradition here," one of the Southampton pickets said. "They don't know the battles that have been fought in the past. It's disheartening. But we're not going to go away."

Michael Horsnell

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Duke of Gloucester opens Loddington Hall Residential Training Centre, at Kettering, Northampton, 10.30.
The Duke of Kent attends the Farnborough International Aerospace Exhibition and Flying Display, Farnborough, Surrey, 10.45.
Prince Michael of Kent, as

president of the Institute of the Motor Industry, visits the Goodyear Tyre Company facilities in Luton, Bedfordshire, 10.45.

New exhibitions
Traditional kelim from Afghanistan and Central Asia; Cobb Nimmil, Mill Lane, Harpsfield, West Sussex; 10 to 7 (ends today).
Last chance to see
Horses on Wheels, paintings by

Martin Rytner, Lyth Arts Centre, Lyth, 10 to 6 (ends today).

Musical
Organ recital by Colin Walsh, Swanage Parish Church, Swanage, Dorset, 8.
Exhibitions in progress
Semi Detached: pictures of people and places. Graves Art Gallery, Surrey St, Sheffield; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Sept 16).
Channel tunnel: a lesson in hope. Ironbridge Gorge Museum, Elton Gallery, Ironbridge, Telford; Mon to Sun 10 to 6 (ends Oct 7).
Paintings by Harriet Macdonald, Macdonald Art Gallery, Ruzelle Park, Ayr; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Sept 24).
Snowdonia: Substance and Shadow, works by David W. Jones, National Museum of Wales, Oxford; Eryri, Llanberis, Gwynedd; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 1.30 to 5 (ends Sept 30).
Curves Studio Prints, Halesworth, Suffolk; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 3 to 6 (ends Sept 7).
Gouaches and drawings by Alan Davis, Sculpture by Martin Murray, Festival Gallery, Pierpoint Pl, Bath; Tues to Sat 11 to 5 (ends Sept 8).
Work by Robert Medley, Bolton Museum and Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5, Wed and Sun closed (ends Sept 8).
Talks and lectures
Ceramics and line printing by Muriel Macintyre and Gladys MacAvoy, Museum and Art Gallery, Castle Wynd, Llanfair, 9 to 5.
The Hakon Hakonsson lecture, by Peter Addyman, Large Viking Festival, Clark Memorial Church Hall, Largs, 8.

National Day

The southern African nation of Swaziland celebrates its Independence Day today. Previously under British administration, the Kingdom of Swaziland came into being in April, 1967, and became an independent member of the Commonwealth on September 6, 1968. Crown Prince Makhosetse, aged 16, was named as heir to the throne after the death of King Sobhuza II in 1982, and will succeed when he is 21. In the meantime, Queen Ntombi is acting as Regent, with the title of Ndlovukazi (elephant).

Anniversaries

Births: Marie-Joseph, Marquis de Lafayette, statesman and soldier who fought against the British in the American War of Independence, Chavazac, France, 1757; John Dalton, chemist and physicist, Eaglesfield, Cumbria, 1766.
Deaths: Hendrik Verwoerd, president of South Africa 1958-66, was assassinated, Cape Town, 1966.

£250,000 bond

The winner of the monthly £250,000 Premium Bond prize with number 242Z A51168 lives in Hackney, east London.

New books - paperbacks

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

Fiction
Nurse and Mothers, by Alison La Tour (Viking, £3.95).
The Rush Act, by Ford Madox Ford (Corgi, £3.95).
Non Fiction
As I Please, by Jimmy Reid (Mainstream, £4.95).
Houses in the Landscape, A Regional Study of Vernacular Building Styles in England and Wales, by John and Mary Fawcett (Faber, £3.25).
King Charles I, by Paulina Gregg (Dent, £3.25).
Margaret Thatcher, Wife, Mother, Politician, by Penny Junor (Sidgwick & Jackson, £1.95).
The Enchanted Body, An Exploration of Nakedness, by Paul Ableman (Sphere, £1.95).
The History of the World Cup, by Brian Glavin (Faber, £3.95).
The Letters of Gustave Flaubert, edited and translated by Francis Steegmuller (Penguin, £3.95).
The Making of Modern London, 1914-1939, by Gavin Weightman and Steve Humphries (Sidgwick & Jackson, £3.95).

Roads

Midlands A50: Contraflow in operation along Uttoxeter by-pass. A46: Contraflow in operation along Colehill by-pass. M6: Contraflow between Junctions 3 (Bedworth) and 4 (Ayrton).
Wales and West A420: Chippenham to Woodrow Road, temporary traffic lights at Lynelham Bank, Wiltshire. A390: Roadworks in St Ives, delays. A388: Roadworks at Moorside, delays.
North A19: Major construction work between Borrowby and south of Thirsk, lane closures, diversions. A6125: Strengthening work around Great North Road, Newcastle, single line traffic. A1: Bridge waterproofing between Tynes roundabout and Tynes Tunnel, south Tyneside. Single line traffic. Scotland: A726: Bridge construction and road realignment single line traffic between Tynes roundabout and Tynes Tunnel, south Tyneside. Single line traffic. Scotland: A726: Bridge construction and road realignment single line traffic between Tynes roundabout and Tynes Tunnel, south Tyneside. Single line traffic.

Canal restrictions

Due to the drought the British Waterways Board imposed further restrictions on canals in north Staffordshire and south Cheshire yesterday.
Locks will remain closed between 4.00pm and 10.00am on the Lever Peck Forest canal near Macclesfield, and the Trent and Mersey canal between Middlewich and Stone. From 4.00pm next Saturday the Trent and Mersey canal between Middlewich and Stone will be closed indefinitely. Seventeen miles of the Calder canal from Euxaria, Stoke-on-Trent to Leek has already been closed.

PC Bishop appeal

Essex County Council has launched a fund for the widow and family of Police Constable Brian Bishop who died on August 27 from gunshot wounds received in an incident in Essex.
Donations can be made in cash or by cheque to any Essex police station, County Hall, Chelmsford; or any branch of Barclays Bank (account number 30196894; sorting code 20 19 95). Cheques should be made payable to the PC Brian Bishop Fund.

The pound

	Bank	Rate
Australia	1.40	1.40
Belgium	36.36	36.36
Canada	1.12	1.12
Denmark	14.48	14.48
France	6.55	6.55
Germany	1.93	1.93
Italy	1.36	1.36
Japan	160.00	160.00
Netherlands	2.36	2.36
Portugal	200.00	200.00
Spain	166.67	166.67
Sweden	13.76	13.76
Switzerland	1.50	1.50
Yugoslavia	247.00	247.00

Writing awards

The closing date for the 1985 Eric Gregory Trust Fund Award for young poets is October 31. Candidates must be under the age of 30 on March 31, 1985. Last year six awards were made totalling £10,000. Applications for the Tom-Gallon Trust Award for fiction writers of limited means must be made by September 20. Details on both awards from: Society of Authors, 48 Drayton Gdns, London, SW10 9SB.

Portfolio

Portfolio - how to play
Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.
Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.
If your total is published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim
Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0204-63272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day after the draw. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.
You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else may do so on your behalf but they must have your card and call the Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated hours.
The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

Some Times Portfolio cards include minor errors in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

The winning of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Rules will appear again in Friday's paper.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure is settling over the UK.

6am to midnight

London, SE England, E Angles: Sunny periods, with occasional developing wind moderate becoming light, max temp 18C (61F).
Con S, E, Can N, England, Midlands, Central Ireland: Sunny periods, with variable light, max temp 17C (63F).
Dry, sunny periods, with variable light, temp 18C (64F).
In the N: Borders, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Con Highlands, Moray Firth, Argy, N Ireland: Dry, sunny intervals, and variable mainly light, max temp 18C (64F).
NE, NW, Orkney, Shetlands: Rather cloudy, a little light rain or drizzle at times, max temp 15C (59F) or moderate, max temp 15C (59F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mostly dry in the S but rather unsettled in the N.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind N fresh becoming moderate, showers, visibility good, sea moderate becoming slight. English Channel: Wind N light or moderate, rain, visibility good, sea slight. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind light variable, fair, visibility good, sea smooth.

Sea rises: 6.21 am

Sea sets: 7.35 pm

Low tides: 1.01 am

High tides: 6.43 pm

Full Moon: September 10

Lighting-up time

London 8.05 pm to 5.58 am

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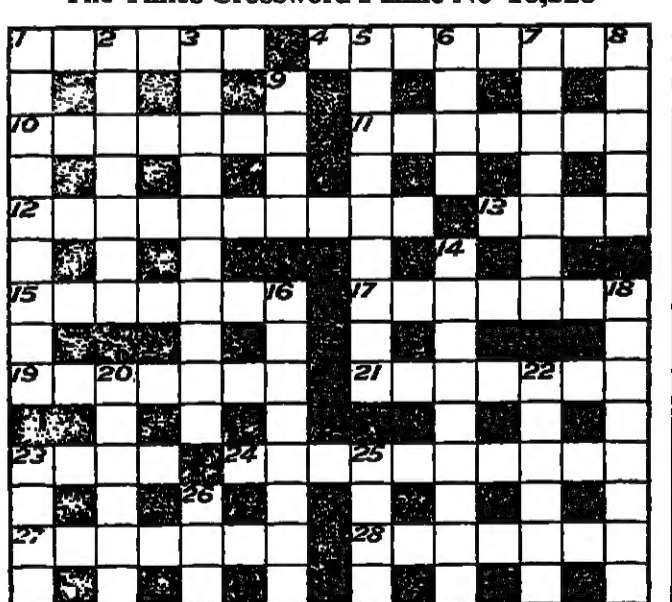
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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,528



ACROSS

- Puerto Rico to expel writer (6).
- Brisk single - looked sharp about it too (8).
- On strike to get increase, become too big for one's boots, perhaps (7).
- Cut in, so returned to Edward (7).
- Anterior gives pointer to go right maybe (10).
- Sounds English, like hard water (4).
- Notes assessed like some minerals (7).
- Getting angrier, exploded (7).
- They show up old residents (7).
- Successfully conclude account with serpent's original greeting (7).
- Classic salvo for bad weather (4).
- Maybe whisky measures swallowed in study time (10).
- About to unite, perhaps, following... (7).
- stirring direction for musicians (7).
- Fellow caught in hold-up is a pleasure-seeker (8).
- "One fine day" in authentic show (6).

DOWN

- Poor pop has the chemical (9).
- No coverage for these games (7).
- Examination by riddle would-be film star must undergo (6,4).
- Nightingale, when preceding a princess of Athens (9).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,527